FBIS DAILY REPORT

MIDDLE EAST & SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

30 AUGUST 1984

Iran-Iraq War

An Iranian F-4 military plane landed at an Iraqi airport on 30 August, and the two pilots requested asylum, Baghdad Voice of the Masses radio reported.

Lebanon

Pierre al-Jumayyil Death — Phalange Party leader Shaykh Pierre al-Jumayyil, minister of posts, communications, health, and social affairs; and father of President Amin al-Jumayyil; died in Bikfayya on 29 August and will be buried on 30 August, Beirut radio announced. The prime minister's office declared an official 3-day mourning period throughout the country, Voice of Lebanon radio noted.

Political Developments — The Cabinet met in Bikfayya and discussed "important administrative affairs and pending government business," although no "important political decisions" emerged, Beirut radio reported. A meeting had been held earlier between President al-Jumayyil, Prime Minister Rashid Karami, and Ministers Nabih Birri and Walid Junblatt, the radio noted. Following the earlier meeting, Junblatt affirmed that he does not want "differences" with the president, and that he respects him, according to Voice of Lebanon. In remarks broadcast by the radio, Karami described the atmosphere of the meeting as "positive," with a "spirit of cooperation."

Security Situation — Renewed clashes occurred in west Beirut, Beirut radio reported. However, the clashes were "limited" and the 6th Brigade carried out its task in maintaining security, the clandestine Voice of Arab Lebanon radio added. Meanwhile, small-arms fire was exchanged in the Ash-Shuwayfat and Kafr Shima area in the mountain, according to the clandestine Radio Free Lebanon. In Tripoli, the security situation "violently exploded" when clashes broke out throughout the city, the clandestine Voice of the Mountain radio reported.

Sudan

Attack on Ferry — The Sudanese People's Liberation Army (SPLA) killed at least 270 government troops in an attack on a "convoy" in the Upper Nile area on 27 August, according to an SPLA statement cited by JANA. An Armed Forces official source cited by SUNA stated that a ferry on the Sobat River in the south had been attacked by "outlaws" on 28 August, but that only four soldiers were "slightly injured."

Red Sea Security Conference— Egypt has agreed to attend a conference on security in the Red Sea after Egyptian President Husni Mubarak received the invitation from President Ja'far Numayri, MENA reported. Saudi Arabia will also attend the conference, Riyadh radio noted citing a responsible government source. Meanwhile, Foreign Minister Hashim 'Uthman delivered a message concerning Red Sea security from Numayri to YAR President 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih, San'a' radio reported.

Libya

In a speech, reported by JANA, at the opening ceremony of the international conference marking the 15th anniversary of the 1 September Revolution, Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi proposed that Libya become an "international platform" for the fight against "colonialism, racism, fascism, and reaction." He also proposed that the "collective struggle" against Israel, South Africa, the United States, the United Kingdom, and France, including the liberation of French colonies throughout the world, begin in Libya.

In a 28 August speech broadcast by Tripoli Voice of Greater Arab Homeland radio, Al-Qadhdhafi stated during the inauguration of the "great artificial river" project that he hoped one day to see the project linked with the Nile water projects in Egypt and Sudan. He also expressed the desire to see Egypt and Sudan "liberated" and stated that Libya will "struggle" with the Egyptian and Sudanese people until their "wills" are liberated.

In a separate development, Al-Qadhdhafi received the Moroccan interior minister and an adviser to Moroccan King Hassan II, Tripoli radio reported.

Algeria

Foreign Minister Ahmed Taleb Ibrahimi received his French counterpart Claude Cheysson and exchanged political views with him, Algiers radio reported. Meanwhile, President Chadli Bendjedid held a telephone conversation with his Syrian counterpart Hafiz al-Asad on bilateral issues and topics discussed during the latter's recent visit to Algeria, SANA noted.

Mauritania-SDAR

SDAR Prime Minister Mahfoud Ali Beiba departed Mauritania after a 3-day visit, Nouakchott radio reported.

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Middle East & Africa

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PLO Fears 'Change' in French Mideast Policy

PM291409 Paris LE MONDE in French
29 Aug 84 pp 1,4

[Michel Deure dispatch: "The PLO Disappointed by France"]

[Text] Tunis — It is not certain [French External Relations Minister] Claude Cheysson will meet with [PLO leader] Yasir 'Arafat in Tunis at the end of the week as he had planned. Mr 'Arafat, who is on an African tour, has apparently made known it will be difficult for him to cancel his engagements. It is still not known at the present time whether the external relations minister will use the 36-hour visit scheduled for Friday and Saturday to have talks with other Palestinian leaders, should the PLO chairman's absence be confirmed.

The reason given by Mr 'Arafat — too many appointments — is surprising when one considers that since early summer he has persistently expressed a desire to meet with Mr Cheysson. Could this "hitch" be deliberate? It would not be surprising if it were, when you consider that in the space of a few weeks the Palestinians have gone from perplexity to irritation at what they regard as France's "double talk" in the Mideast. In addition to these feelings there is the fear of the emergence of a Paris-Damascus axis which, in present circumstances, they have every reason to fear.

This irritation was expressed publicly for the first time in an interview Salah Khalaf (Abu Iyad) gave to the newspaper *LA PRESSE DE TUNISIE*, although he stuck to general remarks. However,during a long conversation we had with Fatah Central Committee member Khalid al-Hasan (Abu As-Sa'id), the latter was more specific, harsher, and more bitter. This is particularly revealing since Mr al-Hasan was among those campaigning most actively for a Franco-Palestinian dialogue. A few weeks ago he met in Paris with Francis Gutman, Quai d'Orsay secretary general and, on his return to Tunis, expressed satisfaction at the assurances he had been given on the continuity of French policy in the Mideast. His disappointment today is all the more acute. It is also thought to reflect Yasir 'Arafat's growing discontent.

"From 1967 to 10 May 1981 French policy in the Mideast was characterized by dynamism and praiseworthy initiatives displaying both realism and awareness of the Palestinian situation," Mr al-Hasan stated.

After admitting that "a degree of continuity" prevailed at the beginning of Mr Mitterrand's 7-year term, Mr al-Hasan mentioned the president's visit to Israel and the abortive Franco-Egyptian resolution at the Security Council which was "due to the American attitude," stressing the importance of the French stance in favor of Palestinian rights to a homeland. Moreover, he did not fail to recall France's "positive role" in the negotiations for the release of Palestinian prisoners from the al-Ansar camp and during the evacuation of Yasir 'Arafat and his troops from Tripoli last year.

"And then nothing more happened," Mr al-Hasan pointed out. "Initially, we blamed this freeze and apparent indifference, breaking with a tradition of some 15 years, on the economic problems facing France and its European partners. Moreover, we did not fail to point out that France's position was in any way comparable with that of London and Bonn, characterized by alignment with U.S. policy and hostility toward us."

It was in this context, our interlocutor explained, that two significant episodes occurred one after the other. First, there were [French Socialist Party First Secretary] Lionel Jospin's statements to an independent French radio station regarding the transfer of theFrench Embassy from Tel Aviv to Jerusalem. Second, there were Mr Mitterrand's visits to Amman and Cairo and Mr Cheysson's visits to Israel and Syria. "Mr Jospin's statements were so out of tune with government thinking that the subsequent explanations given could not be convincing," he stressed. "Moreover, the visits made by Mr Mitterrand and Mr Cheysson, which were obviously connected with the Mideast conflict, did not lead to any contacts with Palestinian leaders, a departure from the attitude Paris had constantly adopted for several years."

"We were particularly confused," Mr al-Hasan continued, "since a deliberately orchestrated press campaign in Israel and France hinted France was preparing to launch a new initiative in the hope of a Labor Party election victory in Israel. How could we fail to take this campaign into consideration, when we were fully aware of the close relations existing between the French Socialist Party and the Israeli Labor Party? We were also aware of the personal links between Mr Mitterrand and [Israeli Prime Minister-Designate] Shim'on Peres."

In Mr al-Hasan's view, "friendship" required the PLO should "openly discuss our perplexity with our French partner" at this stage. According to him, Paris then gave the PLO assurances that can be summarized in three points: The question of a new French initiative in the Mideast is not on the agenda; the French position remains unchanged, and the PLO should be involved in any serious attempt to seek peace; and the Israeli political imbroglio and the upcoming American elections mean nothing viable can be envisaged in the immediate future.

"But no sooner had these French assurances been given than reliable reports and Arab diplomatic commentaries contradicted them," Mr al-Hasan continued. "According to these reports, it seems French diplomacy is not indifferent to the pressing overtures which have been made to it in recent weeks and which are likely to lead toward a real change in its Mideast policy."

Mr al-Hasan, who seemed anxious not to start any polemics, did not refer directly to the tenor of Mr Cheysson's recent talks with Syrian Vice President 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam, but made enough allusions for there to be no mistake. "No Arab state can aspire to control the Palestinian card or hold the key to a settlement which disregards the PLO," he said. "France hitherto seemed to agree with this analysis. A serious situation would exist if France deviated from that line, as our information suggests, on the basis of an assessment which tended to exaggerate the role of one protagonist to the detriment of the other. This is a protagonist who, despite the means used, has failed to gain control of the PLO. Nonetheless, we understand Paris should be sensitive to the present situation in Lebanon. However, I repeat, this should not justify pushing the PLO to the fringes of the diplomatic scene."

Another reason for Palestinian "anxiety" and "irritation" is the consideration which Paris apparently gave to "suggestions" from Damascus on the Iran-Iraq conflict. On this point, also, Mr al-Hasan refrained from any direct accusation against Syria. However, his statement was nonetheless explicit. "Let us make things clear," he stated. "The main reason why we give our views on this conflict is because it affects the future of the whole region. We support those who are working to end this war. On the other hand we are bound to be hostile to those who, directly or indirectly, help perpetuate the conflict, especially with arms supplies, and who encourage the escalation of violence. Moreover, this violence is bound to be harmful to us since it relegates our cause to second place in the Gulf countries' concerns."

"To return to France, we readily understand the attraction of certain markets and the concern to normalize stormy relations with Iran. Still, this must not help fan the flames of the conflict, especially as France would be taking great risks in disregarding the financial consequences of a possible Iraqi collapse. Those who are now offering themselves as effective intermediaries between Paris and Tehran may disregard these dangers, but we believe it is dangerous for France to upset the balance of a Mideast policy from which it has in the past derived great diplomatic and political benefit." This is what the PLO representatives ought to say to Mr Cheysson, if they meet. Mr Cheysson has previously enjoyed a "prejudice in his favor" among the Palestinian leaders. "But," Mr al-Hasan also pointed out, "we are in danger of shortly seeing a change in French foreign policy in our region. Mr Fabius' appointment as premier attracted our attention; he has shown his sympathies on various occasions, and we know they are not particularly supportive to us. Then there is the fact that the Quai d'Orsay, whose balanced policy greatly enhanced France's image in the Arab world, is likely to see the Mideast file taken over by the Elysee. Without wishing to interfere in internal French affairs in any way, we are entitled to faithfully inform our interlocutors of our legitimate fears."

Possible Successors to 'Arafat Discussed

GF291309 Kuwait AS-SIYASAH in Arabic 28 Aug p 1

[Political editor report]

[Excerpt] Sources said four candidates are being discussed by a number of Arab and international parties to replace Yasir 'Arafat as leader of the PLO. The candidates are:

1. Khalid al-Fahum (a Fatah member, but not a member of the Central Committee).

2. Faruq Qaddumi, alias Abu al-Lutf.

3. Salah Khalaf, alias Abu Iyad.

4. Khalid al-Hasan, alias Abu As-Sa'id.

These sources added that the discussions have excluded Abu al-Lutf and Abu As-Sa'id, so that Abu Iyad and Khalid al-Fahum are the principal candidates.

The sources said it was very likely this issue was discussed during the meeting between the Syrian and Algerian presidents, as the convening of the PNC — according to the parties and the countries opposing 'Arafat — is subject to an agreement being reached beforehand on an alternate leader of the PLO. The sources affirmed that the details of this issue are well known to the PLO and Fatah leaderships, and that none of the candidates has been consulted. Accordingly, all discussions are being conducted withoutconsulting the Palestinian leadership.

National Alliance Praises Syrian Support

JN292027 Damascus SANA in Arabic 2005 GMT 29 Aug 84

[Text] Damascus, 29 Aug (SANA) — Comrade Farhan Abu al-Hayja', member of the Palestinian organization's regional command and the As-Sa'iqah forces Political Bureau, and Comrade Abu 'Adawi, member of the Popular Struggle Front Executive Committee, have affirmed the importance of Syria's honorable and steadfast role under President Hafiz al-Asad against Zionist conspiracies and its total support for the Palestinian revolution since its inception.

During a popular seminar given by the Palestinian National Alliance factions at the Al-'A'idin refugee camp today, they declared in the name of the Palestinian masses the revolution would be unable to continue without Syria, which has made many sacrifices and has made the Palestine issue its principal, central issue. Abu al-Hayja' and Abu 'Adawi denounced 'Arafat's defeatist, capitulationist policy. They affirmed that the Palestinian revolution is capable of defeating the conspiracies. In their speeches, they reviewed the current political situation in the Palestinian arena and the dimensions of the conspiracy drawn up by imperialist and Zionist circles in order to fragment Palestinian national unity with the help of 'Arafat, who seeks to abandon the rifle, agrees to concessions, and accepts capitulationist solutions.

PLO Denies Official Missing After Israeli Bombing

LD291221 Kuwait KUNA in English 1051 GMT 29 Aug 84

[Text] Abu Dhabi, Aug 29 (KUNA) — The PLO office here Wednesday denied press reports that a senior Palestinian official was among those missing after Tuesday's Israeli air raid in Lebanon's eastern Al-Biqa' valley.

A spokesman for the office said that there was no truth to agency reports that Ha'il 'Abd al-Hamid (Abu al-Hawl), a member of the Central Committee of Yasir 'Arafat's mainstream Fatah movement, has been missing since the raid, and that the official was in fact in Tunis. Abdul Hol was contacted by phone Wednesday morning in the Tunisian capital, the spokesman said.

At the site of the raid it was reported that rescue teams were still searching the rubble of the three buildings flattened by Israeli warplanes in the village of Rawdah near Bar Elias. Twenty civilians were killed and another 50 injured during the attack in an area run by the anti-'Arafat wing of Fatah led by Colonel Abu Musa.

Resistance Attacks in South Lebanon Reported

JN291723 Baghdad Voice of PLO in Arabic 1615 GMT 29 Aug 84

[Text] The Palestinian-Lebanese national resistance men are continuing their heroic operations against the personnel and equipment of the Zionist forces of invasion in occupied southern Lebanon, inflicting further losses in life and equipment on them.

A resistance group launched a lighting attack yesterday against a Zionist military patrol as it passed near Sarafand, south of Sidon. Five Zionist soldiers were killed or wounded in the machine gun and hand grenade attack. The resistance men also set off a highly explosive, remote-controlled charge under a Zionist military patrol near Ansar in occupied southern Lebanon yesterday. A Zionist truck was destroyed, and all of its occupants killed or wounded.

Another resistance group launched a machine gun and rocket attack yesterday evening against a Zionist military position north of occupied Tyre. Several Zionist soldiers were killed or wounded.

A Zionist military spokesman admitted the three heroic operations, but claimed only three Zionist soldiers were wounded during these attacks. He said his forces immediately carried out an extensive search and arrested a large number of citizens under the pretext of collaborating with the resistance men, who returned safely to base.

Arab Economic, Social Council Ministers Meet

JN291535 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1200 GMT 29 Aug 84

[Text] Amman — His Majesty King Husayn has delegated Sulayman 'Arar, deputy prime minister and interior minister, to open the Arab Economic and Social Council's 37th session. The meeting, which is on the ministerial level, began at the Jordan Intercontinental Hotel today in the presence of representatives of all of the council's member Arab states. 'Arar delivered a speech on behalf of His Majesty King Husayn in which he called for supporting the kinfolk in the occupied Arab territories.

He said: As you meet within view of the occupied West Bank, I would like to remind you of our steadfast kinfolk subjected to the worst kind of blackmail concerning their land, lives, and holy shrines, and who continue their steadfastness despite all the repressive actions to which they are exposed. He added: Your agreement and unity of word will further strengthen their steadfastness and firmness. All they need from you is your help, so that they can cultivate their lands, build their houses, establish their factories, and increase their services in order to prevent the enemy from uprooting them.

'Arar also called on the Arab countries to take measures to strengthen our kinfolk's steadfastness and their challenge to successive Israeli measures. He announced Jordanian support for convening a conference of Red Sea littoral Arab countries to make plans and take measures guaranteeing the region's safety and its ability to promote Arab development.

He also called on the Arab countries to confront Israel's challenge, arrogance, and self-delusion, as well as its ambitions for the Arab lands and their wealth. He added: What happened to the Golan Heights and Jerusalem may happen to other Arab lands. It is time for us to unify our efforts to repulse this continued danger affecting all Arab countries. He added that Israel's invasion of an Arab country will encourage it to invade another country. He also criticized U.S. support for Israel and said: We are now seeing more cooperation between the United States and the Zionist entity within the framework of the declared strategic cooperation agreement, the most recent aspect of which is their intention to set up a joint free zone to increase U.S. support for the Zionist entity with billions of dollars. He added that all of this is taking place while the United States refrains from supplying the Arab countries with aid of any consequence and from providing others with arms enabling them to defend themselves.

Dr Jawad al-'Anani, minister of industry, trade, and tourism and chairman of the current session of the Arab Economic and Social Council, also delivered a speech. He said: Your esteemed council's current session comes during difficult and critical circumstances for the Arab homeland. Everyone knows the various political, economic, and military dangers surrounding the homeland — facts which necessitate intensifying efforts on all levels, not only to overome these dangers but also to achieve a better standard of living for the Arab individual, wherever he lives. Proceeding from this principle, the Arab leaders recognized during their 10th conference in Tunis and their 11th conference in Amman the importance of the principal Arab economic issues and the need for defining courses of joint Arab economic action, as well as strengthening collective Arab relations. During their recent conference in Amman they insisted on the framework of the Arab economic method represented by the four economic documents. They stressed the pan-Arab character of the joint Arab economic action and the need to invest in the Arab economic force to support pan-Arab causes.

The opening session began at 1000 today. Mamduh Hamdi, PDRY finance minister and chairman of the previous session, also delivered a speech. He called on Jawad al-'Anani, minister of industry, trade, and tourism, to chair the Arab Economic and Social Council's 37th session. He said Jordan's hosting the council session is proof of its interest in the council's role in strengthening and promoting joint Arab economic action.

Chedli Klibi, Arab League secretary general, also delivered a speech. He praised his Majesty King Husayn's pan-Arab positions and his support for joint Arab action, as well as his efforts to strengthen Arab ranks. He also praised Jordan's distinguished role in strengthening Arab solidarity and its commitment to the pan-Arab cause. Pointing to the Arab summit conference convened in Amman, he said it was the first economic summit to achieve great success for the Arab nation. He also praised Jordan's steadfastness under King Husayn along the longest line of confrontation with the Israeli enemy, and its confrontation with the Israeli enemy's plans. He also called on the Arab countries to promote cooperation and soldiarity, and to support the resistance in southern Lebanon.

BAHRAIN

Joint Naval Exercise With Qatar Ends

GF291216 Manama WAKH in Arabic 1103 GMT 29 Aug 84

[Text] Manama, 29 Aug (WAKH) — A joint naval exercise between Qatar and Bahrain ended today in Bahrain. A responsible source at the general command of the Bahrain Defense Force said that the exercise, which lasted several days, comes within the framework of military cooperation among the GCC countries to exchange expertise and achieve more coordination and integration among the armed forces of the GCC states. The source stressed that the exercise has accomplished its aspired goals in all stages and has manifested the honorable standard and competence enjoyed by the Naval Forces of Qatar and Bahrain.

KUWAIT

Prime Minister Receives Message From Iraq's Ibrahim

LD291136 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 1104 GMT 29 Aug 84

[Excerpt] Kuwait, 29 Aug (KUNA) — The heir apparent and prime minister of Kuwait, Shaykh Sa'd al-'Abdallah as-Sabah received today a message from Deputy Chairman of the Revolution Command Council 'Izzat Ibrahim. There is no immediate information about the contents of the message, which was conveyed by Iraqi Ambassador 'Abd al-Jabbar 'Umar Ghani.

Economy Shows Strong Rebound in 1983

GF291140 Kuwait ARAB TIMES in English 28 Aug p 1

[Text] Kuwait's economy rebounded strongly in 1983 after a slump the previous year. It was helped by a sharp boost in oil output which easily offset lower world oil prices, the Central Bank says in its annual report.

Gross domestic product (GDP) rose 8.6 percent last year to an estimated 6.2 billion KD [Kuwait dinars], after a 5.4 percent fall in 1982. Although official oil prices fell 12.5 percent, oil revenue rose 10 percent because of a 30 percent boost in output to an average 1.07 million barrels a day. Kuwait benefited substantially from an increase in its oil production quota to 1.05 million bpd [barrels per day] in March 1983 from 800,000 bpd previously, the Central Bank said.

The value of its oil exports was raised by selling a major portion, 42 percent, as refined products which earned an average $3 a barrel more than crude exports. Helped also by a 7.8 percent rise in average prices for liquefied petroleum gas, oil revenue at KD 3.27 billion made up 53 percent of total GDP. Kuwait's trade surplus surged by 42.7 percent to an estimated KD 1.17 billion, reversing a decline which started in 1980. But non-oil exports fell almost 18 percent, with sales of local products down 30 percent. The value of transit trade dropped for the third successive year, by 11 percent.

Iran Allegedly Seeking To 'Justify Retaliation'

LD300900 Kuwait KUNA in English 0817 GMT 30 Aug 84

[Text] Kuwait, Aug 30 (KUNA) — A Kuwaiti daily Thursday expressed surprise over the Iranian official accusation that Kuwait and Iraq cooperated in the hijack of an Iranian airplane. Daily *AR-RA'Y AL-'AMM* clarrified that when Kuwait did not allow the hijacked airplane to land on its airport, it has acted in accordance with its standing policy, which does not allow any hijacked airplane to land on its territories.

An Iranian hijacked airplane Tuesday attempted to land in Kuwait Airport, but Kuwaiti authorities banned it from landing and it proceeded to Iraq, where the hostages were released and the hijackers surrendered. "It is strange that some parties accuse Kuwait, when it is only practicing its sovereign rights", the paper commented. The daily expressed regret that "new means of fabricating tension and problems have been devised".

"We do not understand how these invented methods could help in ceasing tension and solving problems", the newspaper added. The paper commented that "it is strange that such parties frame up problems with others, without reason but to justify retaliation".

SAUDI ARABIA

Kingdom Accepts Invitation to Red Sea Meeting

LD291922 Riyadh Domestic Service in Arabic 1800 GMT 29 Aug 84

[Text] A responsible source at the Foreign Ministry has stated that the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia has accepted the invitation extended to it by the Democratic Republic of the Sudan to attend the conference on the security of the Red Sea, in which all the states overlooking it will participate.

UAE

Briefs

Ambassador to Bangladesh — Dhaka, 29 Aug (WAM) — Bangladesh President Hussain Mohammad Ershad today received the credentials of new UAE ambassador in Dhaka Ahmad Muhammad Ibrahim at-Tamimi. [Text] [*Abu Dhabi WAM in Arabic 1730 GMT 29 Aug 84 GF*]

PDRY

Chairman Receives Fatah's Khalil al-Wazir

GF291748 Aden Domestic Service in Arabic 1500 GMT 29 Aug 84

[Text] Brother 'Ali Nasir Muhammad, secretary general of the YSP Central Committee, chairman of the Presidium of the Supreme People's Council, and chairman of the Council of Ministers, today received in his office at the Secretariat of the Central Committee Brother Khalil al-Wazir, alias Abu Jihad,

deputy commander in chief of the Palestinian revolution forces, and Fatah Central Committee member.

During the meeting, they discussed the current developments on the Palestinian and Arab arenas and the means to strengthen the unity of the Arab nationalist and progressive forces which serve to increase the effectiveness of the confrontation to the imperialist-Zionist assault, which aims at the restoration of colonialist hegemony in the Arab region. Within this framework, Brother 'Ali Nasir Muhammad affirmed the vital importance of the Palestinian national unity as a necessary condition to foil the conspiratorial plans and the capitulatory projects hostile to the Palestinian issue. He reaffirmed that our party and country will continue to exert efforts to safeguard the PLO's unity and to mobilize the national Palestinian capabilities and potentials in the direction of crystalizing the struggle of the Arab Palestinian people for their firm right to return to their homeland, self-determination, and establishment of their independent state under the leadership of the PLO, their sole legitimate representative.

On his part, Brother Abu Jihad praised the PDRY's support for the Palestinian revolution and its principled policy toward the pan-Arab liberation issues of our Arab peoples. He expressed his appreciation for the PDRY's efforts in uniting the Palestinian factions and in bolstering their united struggle in confronting the joint imperialist-Zionist enemy.

The meeting was attended by Salih Munassar as-Siyayli, member of the Political Bureau and chairman of the State Security Committee; 'Abd al-Ghani 'Abd al-Qadir, member of the Political Bureau and secretary of the YSP Central Committee; 'Ali As'ad Muthanna, member of the YSP Central Committee, and secretary of the Central Committee; and 'Abbas Zaki, PLO represenattive in Aden.

YAR

Sudanese Foreign Minister Arrives in San'a'

GF291811 San'a' Domestic Service in Arabic 1700 GMT 29 Aug 84

[Excerpt] Sudanese Minister of Foreign Affairs Hashim 'Uthman arrived in San'a' today on a short visit to our country, during which he will deliver a message to Brother 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih, president of the Republic, commander in chief of the Armed Forces, and secretary general of the General People's Congress from his brother Ja'far Numayri, president of the Democratic Republic of the Sudan. In a statement to SABA' news agency, Hashim 'Uthman said that the message deals with bilateral relations and issues of mutual concern.

President Receives Numayri Message

GF291930 San'a' Domestic Service in Arabic 1830 GMT 29 Aug 84

[Text] Brother Colonel 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih, president of the Republic, commander in chief of the Armed Forces, and secretary general of the General People's Congress, received Sudanese Foreign Minister Hashim 'Uthman at the presidential palace this evening. The minister delivered to the brother secretary general a written message from Sudanese President Ja'far Numayri on bilateral relations and recent events in the Arab region, particularly the incidents of explosions in the Red Sea, which aim at hindering international navigation in the Red Sea. The meeting was attended by Brother Ahmad ash-Shijni, minister of state for Cabinet affairs, acting foreign minister, and member of the Standing Committee.

'Unidentified' Planes Harass Airliner Over Chad

NC300504 Cairo MENA in Arabic 2210 GMT 29 Aug 84

[Text] Cairo, 29 Aug (MENA) — An Egyptian passenger plane was threatened by two unidentified fighter planes over the Chadian border. The two planes flew over the Egyptian airliner's wings for 3 minutes and about 25 meters under them for 2 minutes before disappearing immediately after the Egyptian authorities notified the Egyptian plane's captain, in reply to his call for help, that they were prepared to assist him.

In its Thursday edition, *AL-JUMHURIYAH* reports that the Egyptian Boeing 707 had taken off from Kano Airport in Nigeria for Cairo on Flight 858 with 175 passengers of various nationalities aboard, in addition to the 10 crew. As the plane flew over the Chadian border, its captain was surprised by two fighter planes closing on him, which then flew above and below the airliner's wings. The captain was alarmed and tried to contact the authorities of neighboring states. The Egyptian authorities were able to hear him and informed him that they were prepared to assist him at any moment by sending Egyptian fighter planes.

The paper says that following this contact, the two fighter planes disappeared toward the north. The captain was unable to identify whether the two planes belonged to Libya or someone else.

Italian, Soviet Ships Pass Through Suez Canal

NC291229 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1210 GMT 29 Aug 84

[Text] Ismailia, 29 Aug (MENA) — Three Italian minesweepers *Loto*, *Castagno*, and *Frasino* and the supply ship *Pietro Cavezzale* passed through the Suez Canal today en route to the Red Sea and the Gulf of Suez to participate in the mineclearing operations. The British minesweeper *Wilton* and a Soviet warship named *Nifi Shob 904* also passed through the canal en route to the Red Sea.

Numayri Invites Mubarak to Red Sea Conference

NC292107 Cairo MENA in Arabic 2058 GMT 29 Aug 84

[Text] Cairo, 29 Aug (MENA) — President Husni Mubarak today received a message from Sudanese President Ja'far Numayri, which included an invitation to attend a conference on Red Sea security. Egypt agreed to attend the conference.

Joint Statement With Cameroon Issued

NC291343 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1200 GMT 29 Aug 84

[Excerpts] Cairo, 29 Aug (MENA) — Egypt and Cameroon have expressed their conviction that a permanent and just peace in the Middle Eastern area cannot be achieved except by solving the Palestinian question through the implementation of the pertinent UN and OAU resolutions. In the joint statement issued today at the end of Cameroonian Minister Delegated to the Minister of Foreign Affairs Dr Mahamat Paba Sale's visit to Egypt, the two states underlined the Palestinian people's unalienable right to self-determination and sovereignty as well as the need for a total Israeli withdrawal from all the Arab territories occupied since June 1967. The joint Egyptian-Cameroonian statement reads:

On the occasion of the convocation of the first session of the Joint Egyptian-Cameroonian Committee and in response to an invitation by Dr Butrus Butrus Ghali, minister of state for foreign affairs, Dr Mahamat Paba Sale, minister commissioned [muntadab] to the Cameroonian Foreign Minister, paid an official visit to the Arab Republic of Egypt from 23 through 29 August 1984. Arab Republic of Egypt's President Husni Mubarak received the Cameroonian minister and received from him a private message from Cameroonian President Paul Biya.

The two ministers made an intensive review in an atmosphere of friendship and mutual understanding, of topics related to bilateral relations as well as important African and international questions. In relation to bilateral relations the two ministers expressed satisfaction with the excellent ties of solidarity, fraternity, and friendship that bind the two countries, their peoples, and governments. After studying various spheres of mutual interest in light of the agreements ratified between the two sides, the two sides affirmed their desire to increase, diversify, and intensify their economic, commericial, cultural, scientific, and technical cooperation.

They expressed satisfaction over the positive results of the first session of the Joint Egyptian-Cameroonian Committee which was crowned with the signing of the technical, scientific, and cultural cooperation agreement protocol for 1984-1986. The results of the Joint Committee activities and its recommendations were recorded in official minutes which the two ministers signed as well.

When the important international and African questions were reviewed the two ministers noted, at the outset of the discussions, the identity of principles on which the two states base their stances. They expressed their extreme anxiety over the continued international economic crisis which is particularly affecting Africa. In this context they pointed with satisfaction to the measures that have been taken, whether on the level of the United Nations or the OAU and which aim at enhancing cooperation among the states in the south. They also underlined the significance of applying the Lagos plan of action. The two ministers affirmed their governments' adherence to the OAU principles and ideals.

Regarding Chad, the two sides reaffirmed their support for the legitimate government in N'Djamena, headed by President Hissein Habre. They also affirmed their governments' readiness to contribute toward the success of the national reconciliation conference scheduled to be held in Brazzaville.

Regarding the Western [Sahara], the two ministers expressed their conviction that the solution to this problem lies in the application of the relevant UN and OAU resolutions.

Regarding the situation in South Africa, the two sides strongly denounced the policy of apartheid and racial discrimination followed by the racist Pretoria regime. They rejected the false constitutional amendments that the regime attempted to make. The two ministers reaffirmed their governments' full support for

the Namibian people in their struggle for independence under the leadership of SWAPO, their sole legitimate representative. They also demanded that UN Security Council Resolution 435 be immediately implemented.

Studying the Middle East situation, the two ministers expressed their conviction that a permanent and just peace in the region can only be achieved by solving the Palestinian question through the application of the relevant UN and OAU resolutions. They emphasized in particular the Palestinian people's inalienable right to self-determination and sovereignty, as well as the need for a total Israeli withdrawal from all the Arab territories occupied since June 1967.

Regarding Lebanon, the two ministers reaffirmed the need for the withdrawal of the Israeli forces from Lebanese territory. They expressed their satisfaction with the measures adopted by the Lebanese Government to guarantee Lebanon's security and territorial integrity.

Regarding Iraq-Iran war, the two ministers expressed their extreme anxiety over the continuation of this conflict between brothers — a conflict threatening to expand and to engulf the entire area, and threatening the two countries' peace and security. The Cameroonian minister commended the efforts of the Egyptian Government, which is seeking a peaceful solution to this conflict.

The Cameroonian minister expressed his appreciation for the Egyptian Government's offer to supply Cameroon with Egyptian experts and technicians.

The two ministers agreed on the importance of continued consultation between their governments in various spheres. In this context, Minister Mahamat Paba Sale extended an invitation to Minister Butrus Ghali to officially visit Cameroon. The Egyptian minister welcomed and accepted the invitation.

Minister Mahamat Paba Sale expressed his gratitude to the Egyptian minister of state for the very warm hospitality and fraternal sentiments he and his accompanying delegation were accorded during their stay in the Arab Republic of Egypt.

Sudan's Assembly Speaker Meets With Mubarak

JN291848 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1710 GMT 29 Aug 84

[Text] Cairo, 29 Aug (SUNA) — Egyptian President Muhammad Husni Mubarak received Sudanese People's Assembly Speaker 'Izz ad-Din as-Sayyid this morning. Sudanese ambassador in Cairo 'Abd ar-Rahman Salman attended the meeting.

In a press statement, As-Sayyid explained that he is carrying a message from President Ja'far Muhammad Numayri to his brother President Muhammad Husni Mubarak. He added that this message comes within the framework of consultations between the two presidents.

It is worth noting that As-Sayyid arrived in Cairo last evening on a visit of a few days.

Mubarak Sends Condolences to Al-Jumayyil

NC291907 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1852 GMT 29 Aug 84

[Text] Cairo, 29 Aug (MENA) — President Muhammad Husni Mubarak sent the following cable of condolences to Lebanese President Amin al-Jumayyil on the death of his father, Pierre al-Jumayyil:

We have received with sorrow and grief the news of the death of your honorable father, who had closest ties with Egypt. While conveying to you and to your family my sincerest condolences and condolences from your brothers in Egypt, I ask God to grant the deceased his mercy and to grant you patience and acceptance of his destiny. May God grant you success in serving your fraternal country and your Arab nation.

Ghali Leaves for Kinshasa Conference

NC300757 Cairo MENA in Arabic 0718 GMT 30 Aug 84

[Text] Cairo, 30 Aug (MENA) — Dr Butrus Ghali, minister of state for foreign affairs, left Cairo this morning for Kinshasa at the head of an Egyptian delegation to attend the second African cooperation conference. The conference will start on Sunday and includes Egypt, Sudan, Zaire, Uganda, Rwanda, Burundi, and the Central African Republic. It is being held within the framework of the agreement concluded among these countries during the African summit conference in April 1980.

Dr Ghali stated before departure that his is carrying a written message from President Husni Mubarak to Zairian President Mobutu. He said he will hold intensive talks with the foreign ministers of Zaire, Uganda, Sudan, and the Central African Republic during his stay in Kinshasa.

AFP: 'Ali in Switzerland for Medical Treatment

NC300948 Paris AFP in English 0942 GMT 30 Aug 84

[Text] Cairo, Aug 30 (AFP) — Egyptian Prime Minister Kamal Hasan 'Ali is in Switzerland for routine medical treatment, it was reported here today. *AL-AHRAM* newspaper, which is close to the government, said Mr Hasan 'Ali suffered from rheumatism and went to Bern every six months for a check-up.

Mubarak Holds Meeting on Public Budget

NC291226 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 1130 GMT 29 Aug 84

[Excerpts] President Muhammad Husni Mubarak held an expanded meeting in Al-'Urubah Palace this morning to discuss the final form of the 1984/1985 public budget. Following the meeting, Information Minister Safwat ash-Sharif said that the main features of the public budget were discussed. The budget, he said, will aim at securing social equality and cooperation and at preserving the standard of living for the larger part of the population. Ash-Sharif also said that, after the 'Id al-Adha holidays, the final draft of the budget will be debated by the NDP parliamentary group. The budget proposals will then be submitted to the People's Assembly, Ash-Sharif said.

Mubarak Attends Former President Najib Funeral
NC291116 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1055 GMT 29 Aug 84

[Text] Cairo, 29 Aug (MENA) — The funeral of late Major General Muhammad Najib, the first president of Egypt, started this afternoon from the Rabi'ah al-'Adawiyah Mosque in Nasr City [Cairo suburb]. The late president was accorded an impressive military farewell at which President Husni Mubarak was present. Also attending the funeral were ministers, ambassadors, diplomats, and key officials.

Iranian F-4 Lands; Pilot, Copilot 'Guests'

JN300813 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 0802 GMT 30 Aug 84

[Text] A military spokesman has stated the following:

In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate.

An Iranian F-4 military plane landed at one of the Iraqi airports today. The pilot and copilot of the plane asked for asylum in Iraq to escape Khomeyni's regime. The pilot and copilot are now Iraq's guests.

[Dated] 30 August 1984

Communique Reports Iranian Forces Shell Basra

JN291610 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 1600 GMT 29 Aug 84

[Communique No 1,572 issued by the Armed Forces General Command on 29 August 1984]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. The victorious Iraqi forces have continued their operations at the front against the Iranian ruling clique of evil and tyranny. The results for last night and today are as follows:

1. One of our forward units attacked two enemy boats east of Basra. The two boats were destroyed and their occupants killed. One enemy hardware stockpile was destroyed elsewhere in this area.

2. One of our forward units attacked a number of enemy men and vehicles in the northern sector, destroying a large vehicle and killing or wounding its occupants.

3. One infantry position was destroyed in the central sector of the front.

4. Last night and this morning, the criminal enemy heavy artillery shelled a Basra suburb and the village of (Biyarah) in Halabjah District. The shelling injured a child in Basra, and damaged some gardens in (Biyarah).

[Signed] The Armed Forces General Command, 29 August 1984.

Passengers of Hijacked Airliner Visit Shrines

JN291349 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1300 GMT 29 Aug 84

[Text] Baghdad , 29 Aug (INA) — Passengers of the hijacked Iranian airliner visited the Karbala' holy shrines, 100 km south of Baghdad, today. They were received on arrival by Khalil Ibrahim Jasim, governor of Karbala'. A group of scouts presented them with flowers at the entrances of Al-Husayniyah and Al-'Abbasiyah shrines.

The governor spoke to the passengers of President Saddam Husayn's concern for the shrines and his personal care for them. He also spoke about the funds that are allocated for their maintenance. He talked to them about the comprehensive progress of Iraq, particularly during the war, affirming that aggression against the shrines that house the relics of the chaste imams is aggression against Islam and its sanctuaries.

The governor presented the passengers with gifts, including copies of the Koran, as well as other presents.

The passengers prayed to God to end the destructive war and to restore peace and amity between the two neigboring Muslim states of Iraq and Iran.

Meet Shaykh 'Ali Tehrani

JN291907 Baghdad Domestic Service in Arabic 1800 GMT 29 Aug 84

[Excerpt] The passengers of the hijacked Iranian airliner visited the tomb of Imam 'Ali, peace be upon him, in An-Najaf. They were received by 'Aziz Salih an-Nu'man, governor of An-Najaf, and the secretary and members of the Ba'th Party branch in An-Najaf. The governor, who accompanied them to the tomb of Imam 'Ali, briefed them on President Saddam Husayn's concern for the holy shrines, the clergy, and the great Muslim scientists.

The passengers then met with Iranian opposition clergyman Shaykh 'Ali Tehrani. Tehrani called on them to explain to the Iranian people the nature of the bloodthirsty Iranian regime, which is bent on killing the Iranian people's sons, and to work for ending the war peacefully as soon as possible.

RCC To Release Iranian Prisoners on 'Id al-Adha

JN300930 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0830 GMT 30 Aug 84

[Text] Baghdad, 30 Aug (INA) — On the occasion of blessed 'Id al-Adha, Iraq has decided to set free a number of Iranian prisoners unconditionally. An RCC spokesman told INA today that the RCC will give the released prisoners the choice of returning to Iran or leaving for any country that agrees to welcome them. The spokesman said Iraq is ready to set free fighters of the Iranian Armed Forces who seek refuge with Iraqi units now, during, or after battles, and to facilitate their return to Iran or to any other country that welcomes them.

The spokesman added that the Iranian regime's inhumane stands and practices will not make Iraq desist from carrying out humanitarian initiatives and from proceeding on the course of noble and moral values and ethics it has chosen for itself.

The spokesman explained that the decision to release Iranian prisoners stems from Iraq's understanding of the POW's problems. He added that the decision is based on deep faith in the spirit of the Islamic message, the Arab Socialist Ba'th Party's principles, and commitment to the principles of international law.

The spokesman said this decision is in conformity with many other decisions made in this respect since the war broke out between Iraq and Iran, when Iraqi forces used to release large numbers of prisoners immediately after their capture. The spokesman recalled previous Iraqi initiatives in this respect, such

as the invitation extended to the families of Iranian children who had been taken prisoner to visit the children in Iraq or in any other place under the supervision of the International Committee of the Red Cross. He explained that the Iranian rulers, who are fumbling about in the mud of their defeat and who rejected these initiatives, have demonstrated to the Iranian people and the world at large that they harbor hatred and disavow basic humanitarian principles and ethics.

Company Signs $7 Billion Deal With PRC

JN300740 Amman THE JERUSALEM STAR in English 30 Aug-4 Sep 84 p 1

[by Pam Dougherty, *STAR* staff writer]

[Text] Amman — Seven billion dollars worth of contracts have been signed recently between a Jordanian company and the Peoples Republic of China for the provision of four nuclear power stations to be completed over the next seven years, *THE STAR* has learned.

In what is undoubtedly the largest contract ever for a Jordanian company, United Trading Company (UTC) of Amman will provide the stations on a turn key basis, informed sources have revealed.

Officials of the company were not available for comment, but the *STAR* has learned that UTC will be the contractors and project managers for the schemes which involve two contracts and will work in conjunction with specialists in nuclear field.

The first contract, which is for one station and is valued at $2 billion, will not include the provision of the nuclear island or the conventional island, which have been the subject of negotiations on China's part with France's Framatom and Britain's GEC for the past three and a half years. The second contract, which covers the remaining three stations and is valued at $5 billion, involves all other elements.

Sources say that UTC has now initiated contacts with several qualified European companies in France, Britain, Switzerland, Germany, Austria, and Sweden. They are reported to have had "keen" response from most and particularly from a potential Swiss, German, Austrian-Swedish consortium but are said to be waiting for a serious response from French and British companies. They are hoping to settle arrangements with a consortium by the end of September after which implementations of the projects could begin.

Negotiations for the deal were handled mainly by UTC's Hong Kong office. Observers believe the deal is a major coup for a company established in Amman as a trading concern only 25 years ago.

Since its establishment UTC has blossomed into an energetic and varied group with offices in 14 countries and interests that range from oil drilling in the United States to prawn cultivation in Malaysia, chicken farming in Thailand and the production of laser equipment in the United Kingdom.

The company is also involved in construction work through its associate, Trans Orient Construction and Engineering Company, Jordan's largest construction company.

UTC's success in gaining the contracts may have been helped by China's anxiety to speed up its overall industrialisation programme. When China launched its programme it quickly realised that it needed a dramatic boost in its power supply and it turned its attention to the possibilities of nuclear power. It began negotiations with British and French interests hoping for a combined offer to build the first station but the negotiations have not as yet yielded results.

During American President Ronald Reagan's visit to China this year, the U.S. agreed to help the Chinese with their nuclear power programme but, in an American election year nothing substantial has transpired. The Chinese then decided to go past the slow moving government-to-government procedure and establish contacts with private companies which it hoped would be able to produce results more quickly.

USSR Friendship Society Meets in Moscow

JN291539 Amman PETRA-JNA in Arabic 1450 GMT 29 Aug 84

[Text] Moscow, 29 Aug (PETRA) — Bahjat at-Talhuni, Senate member and chairman of the Jordanian-Soviet Friendship Society, has praised the ties of friendship between the Soviet Union and the Arab countries. At a speech he delivered during the opening ceremony of the society's board of directors meeting in Moscow, he reviewed the Soviet Union's positions in support of the just Arab causes.

At-Talhuni also said that the Soviet Union has taken a principled position on the Middle East cause and that its initiatives in this regard are identical with the Arab positions, with the UN resolutions, and with the other international organizations' resolutions. He also pointed out that the recent Soviet proposals concerning the Middle East settlement were welcomed in Jordan and in the Arab world and that they constitute a practical base for a just solution.

Further on Chedli Klibi Visit to Amman

Confers With Foreign Minister

JN291239 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1200 GMT 29 Aug 84

[Text] Amman — Foreign Minister Tahir al-Masri received Arab League Secretary General Chedli Klibi in his office this afternoon. During the meeting, they discussed the agenda of the Arab League Council's upcoming 28th session to be held under Jordan's chairmanship in Tunis during the second half of September. They also touched on the results of the seven-member committee meeting held in Baghdad to discuss ways to end the Iraqi-Iranian war and follow up the committee's decisions, as well as topics on the agenda of the UN General Assembly's session, especially those concerning Arab causes in general and the Palestine question in particular, in order to take a unified Arab position toward them.

Meets With Journalists

JN292200 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 2100 GMT 29 Aug 84

[Text] Arab League Secretary General Chedli Klibi has said that Arab efforts must now center on building the Arab house on the basis of solidarity and a joint stand. He said that intensive and

continuing efforts are being made in order to prepare for the Arab summit scheduled to be held in Riyadh by reaching agreement on a number of urgent issues and thus make the summit succeed. During a meeting with the editors in chief and senior editors of Jordanian media, the Arab League secretary general said that hope is pinned on this summit achieving enough Arab solidarity to enable the Arab nation to confront its principal problems.

Klibi explained to the Jordanian journalists the problems facing the Arab nation at this stage of its history. He indicated that some of these problems have begun to overwhelm the Arab nation's principal issue — the Palestinian issue. He said that the Arab League is trying to make the Arab nation place all of its abilities at the service of this central issue.

He indicated that the Gulf war poses a threat to the region and to the security of its states, particularly to the Arab Gulf states and their economic interests. He said that work is being carried out on several fronts in order to end this war. There are international efforts both to pressure Iran to change its stand and end the war, which harms the entire region's interests, and to achieve a just peace.

Chedli Klibi touched on another problem dominating the Arab arena — the Lebanese problem. He noted the bitter and protracted suffering it has brought to the Lebanese people, and the destruction of Lebanon's economy, political, and social structure. He urged the Arab countries to exert further efforts to help rebuild and reconstruct Lebanon.

He pointed out the plight of the inhabitants of the occupied Arab territories. He stressed the need for the Arab countries to continue their support of their heroic steadfastness in order to confront the challenge of the Israeli occupation and the arro gance of the extremist, rancorous Israeli factions that are trying to vacate the land of its legitimate inhabitants.

Concluding his statement, the Arab League secretary general praised the Jordanian media for shouldering its responsibility and for fulfilling the trust.

Departs Amman 30 Aug

JN300949 Amman PETRA-JNA in Arabic 0940 GMT 30 Aug 84

[Text] Amman, 30 Aug (PETRA) — Arab League Secretary General Chedli Klibi left Amman this morning after attending the 37th session of the Arab Economic and Social Council, which began its meetings in Amman yesterday.

PLO Military Official Arrives in Amman

JN300743 Amman AR-RA'Y in Arabic 30 Aug 84 p 32

[Text] Amman, *AR-RA'Y* — Brigadier General Ahmad 'Afanah; alias Abu al-Mu'tasim, deputy chief of staff of the Palestinian revolution forces, arrived in Amman from Tunis yesterday evening on a visit of a few days to Jordan during which he will inspect the Palestine Liberation Army [PLA] units in Jordan.

'Afanah was received at the airport by Colonel Na'im al-Khatib, commander of the PLA Badr forces in Jordan; 'Ala' Husni, director of the PLO office in Amman; Lieutenant Colonel Muhammad Qudsiyah, deputy commander of Badr forces; and Lieutenant Abu at-Tayyib, director of the commander in chief's military bureau.

Reportage on Reaction to Pierre al-Jumayyil's Death

To Be Buried 30 Aug

NC291816 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1800 GMT 29 Aug 84

[Text] Shaykh Pierre al-Jumayyil, a prominent figure in Lebanon's independence; one of the most prominent Lebanese political leaders; minister of posts, communications, health, and social affairs; a deputy; and father of President Amin al-Jumayyil, died at 1830 today.

The burial will take place at 1730 tomorrow in Bikfayya in a regular ceremony in accordance with the departed's will.

Condolences will be accepted at the departed's house in Bikfayya on Friday, Saturday, and Sunday.

3-Day Official Mourning Period

NC291832 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1815 GMT 29 Aug 84

[Excerpts] The Prime Minister's Office has declared an official mourning period for Shaykh Pierre al-Jumayyil, minister of posts, communications, health and social affairs, who died this afternoon. Flags at government buildings will fly at half-mast for 3 days.

The Merchants Association called on business to close tomorrow and examinations due to have been held in East Beirut were postponed.

Phalangists Urge Calm

NC291616 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic 1608 GMT 29 Aug 84

[Text] The Lebanese Forces and the Phalange Party Security Council call on members of the party and its supporters not to open gunfire because this would distress he who had called throughout his life for discipline and for avoiding chaos and confusion.

VOM: Tension in East Beirut

NC300528 (Clandestine) Voice of the Mountain in Arabic to Lebanon 0430 GMT 30 Aug 84

[Text] Political differences between the various political forces in East Beirut became very acute yesterday following the death of Phalange Party leader Pierre al-Jumayyil. East Beirut witnessed tension that was reflected in the opening of gunfire and extensive Phalangist roadblocks. This increased the tension that emerged in Al-Matn Mansuriyah between supporters of Nihad Shalhat, the National Liberal Party's military commander, and Phalangist groups. Dr Nabih Shalhat, brother of the latter military commander, was assassinated. This incident developed into an exchange of fire that was contained late last night.

Following the announcement of the Phalange Party leader's death, Fadi Afram, commander of the so-called Lebanese Forces, instructed his supporters to redeploy in the positions presently occupied by the 5th Brigade. His forces were also put on maximum alert.

Exclusive information received by the Voice of the Mountain says that Dr Elie Karami, deputy leader of the Phalange Party and Pierre al-Jumayyil's successor — in accordance with the latter's will — asked the Phalangist police to set up roadblocks on the roads leading to Beirut's front lines. The reasons for this measure are not known. Yesterday's information did in fact note extensive Phalangist moves along Beirut's front lines, particularly in the market area.

Reports from the Iqlim al-Kharrub say Phalangist positions continue to be strengthened. This shows their intentions against the national forces in the area.

Phalangists To Observe 40 Days Mourning

NC291900 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic 1845 GMT 29 Aug 84

[Excerpt] The chairman of the Phalange Party Security Council has called on all Phalangist Party centers, barracks, and offices to fly flags at half-mast for 40 days as of tomorrow.

Karami Offers Condolences

NC291651 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1642 GMT 29 Aug 84

[Text] A short time ago, Prime Minister Rashid Karami contacted President Shaykh Amin al-Jumayyil by telephone and offered his condolences on the death of his father Shaykh Pierre al-Jumayyil, minister of posts, communications, health and social affairs.

VOL Reports on Political Leaders' Pre-Cabinet Meeting

NC291949 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1615 GMT 29 Aug 84

[Excerpt] The four-man meeting that preceded today's Cabinet meeting was devoted to ending the charged political atmosphere and eliminating the rabid campaigns that Minister Walid Junblatt launched in the past few days. A discussion took place among the president, the prime minister, and Ministers Birri and Junblatt about the duplicity of some ministers in participating in the government and simultaneously criticizing the regime and government — duplicity that has gone as far as personal offense. President al-Jumayyil expressed his readiness to reveal papers and dossiers which would not be in the interest of anyone. He said: We had an honor pact among the government members, which some have not respected. Every time we were ready to discuss important topics, some ministers brought up secondary topics that prevented important discussions. Al-Jumayyil asked everyone to have frank stands, and said if anyone contemplated resigning, he should say so.

The 90-minute meeting aimed at reaching an understanding on the need to achieve harmony within the government and to adhere to the salvation program contained in the government policy statement. The discussion touched upon the question of political reform. President al-Jumayyil emphasized that he has been calling for reform for some time and that more than one extraordinary session was fixed to discuss it, but the sessions were obstructed.

Beirut Reports on 29 Aug Cabinet Meeting

NC291503 Beirut Domestic Service in English 1405 GMT 29 Aug 84

[Text] The weekly Cabinet meeting was held in Bikfayya at the presidential summer residence today and no important political decisions emerged from this meeting, which was devoted mainly to the consideration of important administrative affairs and pending government business. The Cabinet did decide, however, to devote its next meeting to the discussion of political issues in a, and we quote, practical and positive manner, according to Prime Minister Karami.

The Cabinet will meet on Tuesday instead of Wednesday, which will be the first day of Al-Adha feast. Informed sources indicated that the Cabinet had not been expected to take important decisions today because of the need for a general discussion over the developments over the past 2 weeks and the factors which had led to political information and security escalation. Consequently, there was a general agreement for the need to postpone consideration of key political questions until the next meeting.

The Cabinet meeting today was seen by observers as an opportunity to break the deadlock which had prevailed in recent weeks and which had virtually paralyzed efforts to put the country back on the right track. Prior to the Cabinet meeting, a special conclave was held in Bikfayya between President al-Jumayyil, Prime Minister Karami, Minister of State Nabih Birri, and Minister of Public Works Walid Junblatt. The meeting provided an opportunity for the clarification of positions and the evaluation of incidents in recent weeks.

The four-man meeting began as soon as Karami and Birri arrived in Bikfayya by military helicopter, minutes after Minister Junblatt arrived by road from Duhur ash-Shuwayr. The four-man conclave lasted for over 1 and 1/2 hours, during which other ministers had arrived, with the exception of Education Minister Salim al-Huss who had just missed the helicopter which took the prime minister. He actually asked for another helicopter but after waiting for half an hour returned to his West Beirut residence.

Meanwhile, President al-Jumayyil opened the Cabinet meeting by referring to the attack on the Saudi Consulate in Beirut. He strongly condemned the attack and read some of the security, diplomatic, and press reports received on the incident. The president asked the appropriate authorities to take prompt and firm action against all military and security personnel who failed to carry out their duty. It was noted by the Cabinet that the Security Forces had been informed of the demonstration that was moving toward the consulate, and had been ordered to take appropriate action to prevent the demonstrators from attacking the embassy premises. The Security Forces failed to act. The president requested that a full report on punitive action taken be submitted to the Cabinet on Tuesday.

Prime Minister Karami also condemned the attack and expressed his dismay over the failure of the concerned authorities to provide the embassy premises with appropriate protection. He also stressed the need for the punishment of those responsible, with a report to be submitted to the Cabinet at its next meeting.

The issue of south Lebanon was also considered by the Cabinet in the light of the Lebanese complaint to the Security Council and in view of diplomatic reports received on international reaction to the Lebanese complaint. Agreement was reached on the need for continued consultations to secure the approval of a resolution which would meet the Lebanese aspirations without provoking a veto.

When the Cabinet meeting adjourned at 1330 in the afternoon, Prime Minister Karami told newsmen that the discussions during the meeting between the president and Ministers Birri and Junblatt, which he attended, were very positive and were permeated with the spirit of cooperation. He stressed that the meeting was constructive in keeping with the efforts to maintain the peace process.

Prime Minister Karami revealed that the Cabinet had decided to ask Defense Minister 'Adil 'Usayran to set up a military committee to be responsible for formulating and implementing a security plan for Tripoli. The prime minister said that no important appointments were made and indicated that this was also left for the Cabinet meeting on Tuesday. The Cabinet was widely expected to appoint a successor to the outgoing Governor of the Bank of Lebanon, Michel Khuri, whose term of office ends on Thursday.

Prime Minister Karami indicated that future Cabinet meetings will be held in B'abda. He expressed regret over the misunderstanding which had left Minister al-Huss stranded and forced him to miss the Cabinet meeting.

A few decisions were adopted by the Cabinet, mostly dealing with routine administrative affairs. The Cabinet named the Lebanese delegation to the forthcoming session of the United Nations. The delegation will be headed by Prime Minister Karami and will include top Foreign Ministry personnel. The Cabinet also approved Lebanese participation in a number of Arab and international conferences and seminars.

Karami Makes Statement

NC291208 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1115 GMT 29 Aug 84

[Text] The Cabinet meeting today was aimed at easing the tense political atmosphere. It ended at 1320 without discussing in detail issues on the agenda. The Cabinet instead discussed the issues on which there are differences. The Cabinet will meet in B'abda to complete its discussions on Tuesday, because the Al-Adha feast may fall on Wednesday.

At the end of the meeting Walid Junblatt spoke in moderate terms and said that he respects the president of the Republic and that he does not want differences with him.

Prime Minister Rashid Karami described the private meeting that preceded the Cabinet meeting as positive and comfortable. He said that the defense minister has been entrusted with forming a military committee to draft an integrated security plan for Tripoli. A governor for the Bank of Lebanon has not been named and the issue was postponed until the Tuesday meeting. We will now listen to Prime Minister Rashid Karami's statement:

[Begin recording] [Karami] The Cabinet held a meeting. Prior to the meeting a private meeting was held with his excellency the president of the Republic which was attended by Ministers Walid Junblatt, Nabih Birri, and myself. During the meeting we discussed well known issues and the developments that occurred in the past few days. The atmosphere was positive and imbued with a spirit of cooperation in the interest of Lebanon and its people, who have suffered a great deal and have become eager for calm and for continuing t7e salvation march. After that we moved to the Cabinet Hall where we reviewed the issues on the agenda in general. That is all.

[Unidentified reporter] [passage indistinct]

[Karami] The discussion dealt with all these affairs. Agreement was reached on holding the Cabinet meeting on Tuesday to discuss these issues in a practical and positive way, God willing.

[Reporter] Regarding the anticipated security steps [words indistinct].

[Karami] The Cabinet has decided to entrust His Excellency Defense Minister 'Adil 'Usayran with forming a military committee to take care of the security plan in the city of Tripoli.

[Reporter] [passage indistinct]

[Karami] [Words indistinct] instructions, and this will be discussed during Tuesday's meeting, God willing.

[Reporter] Mr Prime Minister, will the meetings continue to be held in Bikfayya?

[Karami] No, the next meeting will be held in (?B'abda), God willing.

[Reporter] Is there any reason for the absence from today's meeting of Minister Dr Salim al-Huss?

[Karami] There was a misunderstanding regarding the time of arrival of the helicopter; we arrived at the Military Beach at 0845, but his excellency arrived at 0945. [end recording]

Junblatt Comments

NC291716 (Clandestine) Voice of the Mountain in Arabic to Lebanon 1630 GMT 29 Aug 84

[Text] Following today's Cabinet meeting, Progressive Socialist Party leader Walid Junblatt said the following:

I would like to clarify some matters: It appears that Shaykh Amin [al-Jumayyil] was annoyed over two remarks I made about the question of the illegal utilities and Bikfayya Palace. We are in a democratic country and we have the right to express views freely. Bikfayya Palace, as is known, is a genuine Arab palace and previously belonged to the Abu al-Lama' family, which is a well known family. Today it belongs to the Al-Jumayyil family, to Bikfayya, to me, and to all the Lebanese. Junblatt added: I would like to say that Beirut's southern suburb, the south, and the mountain must be given the minimum of material guarantees following the devastation that struck these areas, as well as the historic deprivation they have suffered. This is what I wanted to say today, no more and no less.

Regarding his attitude on the country's political situation, Minister Walid Junblatt said: I still uphold my political view and my political evaluation of all matters.

Committee Calls for Observing Imam as-Sadr's Day

NC291516 Beirut Domestic Service in English 1405 GMT 29 Aug 84

[Text] The common Security Liaison Committee stressed that its political horizon was far stronger than any misleading rumors. The committee called, in a communique issued after its meeting today, on all the citizens of Beirut and other areas to participate in Imam Musa as-Sadr's day next Friday.

The committee, which emerged from last night's meeting at Dar al-Fatwa, had representatives from the Amal movement, the Progressive Socialist Party, the Al-Murabitun [Independent Nasirite Movement], Dar al-Fatwa, and the Army. The participants had discussed the events of yesterday and rejected any sectarian rumors by which some of the opposite [word indistinct] tried to crack the Islamic unity and which consequently failed to do so.

The committee finally called on all people of Beirut and in the different Lebanese areas to peacefully participate in Imam Musa as-Sadr's day on Friday. It also called for the participation in the day of the mountain on Sunday, and it kept the session open to follow up the new developments.

VOL: Hezbollah To Attack 'Saudi' Interests in Europe

NC291233 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1115 GMT 29 Aug 84

[Text] According to informed sources, some 14 members of Hezbollah, most of whom are Lebanese, have completed their training to carry out terrorist action against Saudi [as heard] interests in France, Belgium, and Austria. The sources added that these members are now on their way to these three countries to carry out operations that will coincide with the anniversary of Imam Musa as-Sadr's disappearance on 31 August.

It has been learned that an Amal group specialized in plane hijacking intends to hijack a Libyan plane while on a flight to a European country.

According to other information, some eight frogmen, who have been trained in an Arab country, planted explosive balloons [balunat mutafajjirah] in the Red Sea while travelling aboard a cargo ship from Cyprus to the Gulf states during the first days of August.

UN Delegate Calls for End to Israeli Occupation

NC300533 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 0300 GMT 30 Aug 84

[Text] Ambassador Rashid Fakhuri, Lebanon's permanent UN representative, has called for an immediate end to Israeli practices in southern Lebanon and for an end to the Israeli occupation, which began in June 1982. In his speech to the UN Security Council in the name of the 800,000 Lebanese suffering from the Israeli occupation, Ambassador Fakhuri called for the immediate implementation of previous Security Council resolutions concerning Israel's withdrawal from southern Lebanon.

Ambassador Fakhuri outlined Israeli practices in the occupied Lebanese territory, emphasizing the state of seige, to which he called for an end. He also called for respecting the Universal Declaration on Human Rights. He denounced Israel's current work to divert the Al-Hasbani River waters to its territory.

Israeli UN Representative Yehuda Blum said the Security Council meeting aims to divert attention, and he opposed the draft resolution Lebanon submitted to the council. The draft resolution condemns Israeli practices in southern Lebanon and calls for the dispatch of a UN fact-finding commission to the area.

Arab League's Klibi Arrives in Beirut 30 Aug

NC300826 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 0800 GMT 30 Aug 84

[Text] Arab League Secretary General Chedli Klibi arrived at Beirut International Airport at 1030 today on a 1-day visit to Lebanon, during which he will meet with Prime Minister Karami and Minister Birri. He will leave this evening for Tunis. Klibi will return to Lebanon at a future date. Klibi will ask his envoy to Lebanon, Hammad as-Sid, to represent him at the funeral of Shaykh Pierre al-Jumayyil. Klibi is expected to go to Bikfayya to extend his condolences to President Amin al-Jumayyil.

Upon arrival, Klibi said: We have called and reiterate the call for united efforts to rebuild Lebanon and revive its economic establishments. We therefore support the national unity government headed by Prime Minister Karami. As for the south, its issue is of concern to the entire Arab world. We will do our utmost to support its struggle against the Israeli occupation for its liberation and for returning it to [words indistinct].

Meets Al-Jumayyil, Karami

NC301202 (Clandestine) Voice of the Mountain in Arabic to Lebanon 1130 GMT 30 Aug 84

[Text] Arab League Secretary General Chedli Klibi arrived in Beirut at 1100 today, accompanied by Hammad as-Sid. He then went to Bikfayya and extended his condolences to President Amin al-Jumayyil on the death of his father. Klibi then held a meeting with President al-Jumayyil. Nothing has been disclosed about the topics discussed, however observers believe they discussed the Lebanese crisis, the situation in the south, and the Lebanese complaint against Israel in the UN Security Council.

Klibi then called on Prime Minister Karami in his office in the Government House at 1245. They discussed developments on the local and Arab levels. They also discussed Arab League support for the south and its assistance to Lebanon in international organizations, particularly in the United Nations.

It should be mentioned in this regard that Chedli Klibi may leave Lebanon tomorrow afternoon.

Upon arrival, Klibi made a statement in which he said: We will exert our utmost efforts to support the south against the Israeli occupation and to restore it to the legitimate authority.

VOL Reports Syrians, Israelis Exchange Fire

NC292050 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 2030 GMT 29 Aug 84

[Text] Our Al-Biqa' correspondent reports that sporadic artillery fire was exchanged between the Israeli and Syrian forces today at the front lines in the western Al-Biqa'. Israeli tanks were subsequently seen moving in the area.

Security Committee Reviews Mountain Situation

NC291152 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1030 GMT 29 Aug 84

[Text] The Security Arrangements Committee ended its meeting a short while ago. The meeting was attended by Colonel Michel Fleutiaux, commander of the French observers team, and Colonel Rafiq Faghali, commander of the disengagement force in the mountain. The committee discussed the security situation in Kafr Shima and Ash-Shuwayfat in the light of the deterioration of the security situation which took place yesterday. The committee also discussed the idea of changing some of the French observation posts with a view to establishing one in Kafr Shima and

another in Ash-Shuwayfat so that observation can be more comprehensive and so that any violations that take place on this line can be dealt with. The committee found that this is possible and will later study the locations where the French observers can be placed.

Col Faghali complained to the committee about the harassment to which his men are being exposed — such as shooting and other harassment during the clashes that take place in the Kafr Shima, Ash-Shuwayfat, and the mountain areas.

The committee also discussed the situation in Beirut and the suspension of work to remove the barricades in the central area. The committee studied the possibility of continuing the work in cooperation with Oger Liban. It was decided in principle that each party will seek to calm the fronts and to resume work in the central area in Beirut.

As for the security situation on the Kafr Shima-Ash-Shuwayfat line, security reports received by the security committee confirm that complete calm has been prevailing on this line since this morning.

Reportage on Fighting in Beirut Area

Renewed Clashes 29 Aug

NC291538 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1530 GMT 29 Aug 84

[Text] Security sources reported a short while ago that clashes were renewed in the At-Tariq al-Jadidah area at about 1800 today. The appropriate quarters and leaderships are dealing with the situation to restore matters to normal.

Al-Murabitun Denies Involvement

NC291727 (Clandestine) Voice of Arab Lebanon in Arabic 1630 GMT 29 Aug 84

[Text] A limited incident took place this afternoon in the Al-Fakihani and Abu Sahl areas [in West Beirut], during which limited clashes broke out. Intensive contacts are being made among the nationalist and Islamic leaderships to deal with the incident, while the 6th Brigade is carrying out its task in maintaining security with the support and cooperation of all parties. This comes in implementation of the decisions issued by the plenary meeting at the mufti's office yesterday.

Regarding this afternoon's incident, a responsible source in the Independent Nasirite Movement-Al-Murabitun denied reports carried by the Phalangist media about clashes between the Amal and Al-Murabitun movements. The source affirmed that the movement has nothing to do with this afternoon's incident.

The source called upon citizens not to heed rumors circulated by hostile trumpets and media and to cooperate with the 6th Brigade, which is dealing with the incident with the support of all parties.

Birri Affirms Adherence to Agreement

NC291721 (Clandestine) Voice of Arab Lebanon in Arabic 1630 GMT 29 Aug 84

[Text] Amal movement leader Nabih Birri contacted the Voice of Arab Lebanon by telephone. He affirmed the movement's complete adherence to the agreement reached yesterday under the auspices of Mufti Shaykh Hasan Khalid and in the presence of all parties and brothers. He stressed that yesterday's incident was never one between the Amal and Al-Murabitun movements and that it was a mere problem that is being dealt with by the 6th Brigade. Rumors must not be believed because some are seeking to split the nationalist and Islamic ranks and to foil their victories, which were achieved through cooperation — particularly with nationalist and Islamic Beirut — since the Israeli invasion.

Situation Deteriorates in Tripoli 29 Aug

NC291211 (Clandestine) Voice of the Mountain in Arabic to Lebanon 1130 GMT 29 Aug 84

[Excerpt] The situation in the north has again deteriorated. Clashes have broken out in Tripoli following the continuation of sniper fire on the contact lines. At 1330, after the Coordination Council's meeting, the security situation violently exploded in the Ash-Sha'rani al-Amirikan, Al-Barraniyah, As-Sayyidah, Suq al-Qamh, and Bab at-Tabbanah quarters. Heavy-caliber artillery and various types of weapons were used in the clashes.

The city is witnessing a heavy exodus to neighboring villages to flee the artillery fire, which has extended to the residential quarters. The city is semi-paralyzed. Shops have closed and the streets are deserted.

Militia Leader on Situation

JN291831 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic 1700 GMT 29 Aug 84

[Luis Faris dispatch from Damascus]

[Text] The central command of the Arab Democratic Party resumed its meetings with Syrian officals on the Tripoli situation. 'Ali 'Id, leader of the party's militias, told our radio that the party is fully committed to the Supervision Committee's decisions and to all the measures that Rashid Karami is taking. 'Id called for implementing the agreement, which was announced under Karami's supervision in the presence of the Tripoli functionaries and with the agreement of all parties concerned. 'Id accused the other sides of trying to (?misinterpret) Karami's decisions. He said: Any delay in implementing the decisions will harm Tripoli's people and economy, and will serve the antinational sides which are working to explode the situation. He said this delay will also burden the toiling people.

'Ali 'Id also said that the effective solution to stopping the Tripoli bloodshed should not be confined to statements, meetings, and recriminations. He said that the security plan's tactical steps should be implemented throughout the city.

On another level, Colonel Abu Musa [Sa'id Musa Muragha] said that the Israeli raid on Al-Biqa' was aimed against the anti-'Arafat forces' positions. However, Abu Musa said that Israeli raids will not force the Fatah opposition movement to abandon the armed struggle to realize the national aims of liberation and return.

RFL Reports on Security Situation 29 Aug

NC291511 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic 1445 GMT 29 Aug 84

[Text] Machine gun sniper fire has been reported from the Junblatt followers positions in Ash-Shuwayfat on peaceful residential quarters in Kafr Shima.

The sound of gunfire was heard a short while ago in Ash-Shiyah. The reasons are still unknown.

In Tripoli, clashes are continuing between fighters of the Islamic Unification Movement and the Red Knights. Rockets are landing now and then on residential quarters while some fires were reported in the At-Tabbanah area.

In the mountain, gunfire was opened this afternoon from Junblatt followers' positions in 'Aytat on the Lebanese Army positions in Suq al-Gharb and Qal'at al-Hisn.

VOL Updates Casualties in Israeli Raid

NC292053 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 2030 GMT 29 Aug 84

[Text] Thirty-seven people were killed, 15 are missing, and 75 were wounded during the Israeli raid on Barr Ilyas yesterday. Eleven civilian vehicles were destroyed, as was the building that was attacked. Our Al-Biqa' correspondent said Palestinian official Abu Ahmad Isma'il was killed, while Abu Al-Hawl was taken to Damascus Hospital with various wounds and missing fingers.

Al-Asad Telephones Algerian President Bendjedid

JN292117 Damascus SANA in Arabic 2110 GMT 29 Aug 84

[Text] Damascus, 29 Aug (SANA) — President Hafiz al-Asad held a telephone conversation this evening with Algerian President Chadli Bendjedid. The conversation dealt with issues concerning the Syrian and Algerian sides, and topics discussed during President Hafiz al-Asad's visit to Algeria.

Khaddam Leaves for Algiers

JN301024 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1015 GMT 30 Aug 84

[Text] Damascus — Vice President 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam left for Algiers today carrying a message from President Hafiz al-Asad to Algerian President Chadli Bendjedid. The visit takes place within the framework of the continuing contacts and consultations between the two countries.

Al-Asad Sends Condolences to Al-Jumayyil

JN300705 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 0315 GMT 30 Aug 84

[Text] President Hafiz al-Asad has sent the following cable of condolences to Lebanese President Amin al-Jumayyil on the death of his father, Pierre al-Jumayyil:

His Excellency Amin al-Jumayyil, president of the Lebanese Republic; We have received with deep sorrow the news of the death of your father, Pierre al-Jumayyil. I deeply share your grief in losing at the same time a father and a pillar of your government. Please accept my sincerest condolences and my sympathetic sorrow in your misfortune and that of your family. We ask Almighty God to grant him peace in his final abode and grant you patience and solace.

Al-Ahmar Receives PNC Speaker al-Fahum

JN300841 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 0815 GMT 30 Aug 84

[Text] Damascus — Ba'th Party Assistant Secretary General Comrade 'Abdallah al-Ahmar received PNC Speaker Khalid al-Fahum this morning. They exchanged opinions on the political situation in the Arab arena in general and the Palestinian arena in particular.

Defense Minister Attends Navy Day Celebrations

JN300756 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 0315 GMT 30 Aug 84

[Excerpts] Latakia — At the instructions of struggler President Hafiz al-Asad, the commander in chief of the Army and Armed Forces, and on the occasion of our Armed Forces' Navy Day celebrations, General Mustafa Talas, deputy commander in chief of the Army and Armed Forces, deputy prime minister, and minister of defense, sponsored our Naval Forces' celebrations of Navy Day. Gen Talas visited one of our naval bases yesterday. He was accompanied by General 'Ali Aslan, the deputy chief of staff, and several General Command officers.

In a speech on the occasion, Gen Talas conveyed President Hafiz al-Asad's congratulations on Navy Day and the president's wishes that the Syrian Navy develop and succeed in the tasks entrusted to it. Gen Talas reviewed the history of the Syrian Arab Navy, the stages through which it has passed, and the role of the corrective movement in sponsoring and developing it. Gen Talas also reviewed the heroic battles Syrian Navy units waged in the October liberation war.

Gen Talas explained the current political situation in the region, the difficult circumstances our steadfast masses are experiencing, and current events in the Lebanese arena. Gen Talas said: Thanks to boundless Syrian support, Lebanon has succeeded in restoring political stability and military tranquillity over Lebanese territory.

He added: In light of this stability and tranquillity, the Lebanese national government has succeeded in beginning the implementation of its security plans in all Lebanese areas and in opening the various files of reforms on all levels.

He said: Despite suspect moves by Israel's agents in Beirut and Tripoli in an attempt to hamper the march of peace and security, obstruct Syrian efforts, and provide Israel with suitable opportunities to annex southern Lebanon, the Lebanese Government is proceeding with its positive steps. The Lebanese national resistance is escalating its heroic operations, and Syria is proceeding with its course of pan-Arab liberation stemming from its pan-Arab and principled commitment toward Lebanon and the Lebanese people.

Shamir-Peres Meet in 'Optimistic Atmosphere'

TA291832 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1705 GMT 29 Aug 84

[Text] Right now, at the King David Hotel in Jerusalem, the meeting between Shim'on Peres and Yitzhaq Shamir has ended. The meeting was held in an optimistic atmosphere, it is reported, and both sides are speaking of progress in the talks. Arye Golan reports from the King David Hotel:

[Golan — live] Good evening from the tete-a-tete meeting between Shim'on Peres and Yitzhaq Shamir. A few minutes ago we heard 'Uzi Bar-'Am say that the genuine negotiations took place between Peres and Shamir, and here, as you said, Avner, there was great optimism this evening. When the prime minister and the prime minister designate emerged from the room where they were holding these private talks, Shamir spoke of considerable progress. Shim'on Peres said that the chances of forming a national unity government had increased. This is the atmosphere. Today they discussed formulations for the guidelines and both men spoke of great progress on the issue of Jordan's invitation to negotiations. They also came closer to agreement on the matter of settlements, which will be decided on by a national unity government, if one is established. Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir emerged first:

[Begin recording] Today we continued discussions on all the issues involved in the establishment of a national unity government. We emphasized the guidelines, the formulation of those clauses that have not yet been agreed upon, and we made considerable progress. We decided between ourselves to accelerate the pace of the talks and we hope to conclude them at the beginning of next week. [end recording]

[Golan] Well, Shim'on Peres and Yitzhaq Shamir have already arranged for another meeting on Friday and a last meeting, they hope, this coming Sunday. They have left until then the question of rotation of the premiership and also the no less complicated question of the division of portfolios in a united government. Shim'on Peres also emerged optimistic and said that there was considerable progress in this evening's 1 and 1/2 hour meeting with the prime minister:

[Begin recording] This is the third in the series of our private talks. Remember, we have had to cover a wide range of problems. We are discussing both the content and the formulations in all areas of our life; there is no shortage of problems. We agreed today that we will hold at least two more talks and I hope this, more or less, will lead the negotiations to a general conclusion. We will apparently meet this coming Friday and Sunday. The composition of the Cabinet will be put off right until the last session. Today, as said, we dealt with content and formulations and there was considerable progress. If we take into account the gravity of the issues and their complications, I think we made considerable progress today. I hope that the chances of establishing a national unity government have increased. [end recording]

[Golan] In reply to a question of whether the Alignment has softened its position and opposition to the idea of rotating the premiership, the Labor Party chairman said there is no change in the Alignment position on this issue. At the news conference Shim'on Peres gave after the meeting, we asked him whether he had talked to Yitzhaq Shamir about a full 4-year term government, or about a shorter one. Shim'on Peres answered: The intention is to establish a government that will serve for a full term. Well, that is all of the report on the private meeting between Shim'on Peres and Yitzhaq Shamir. I repeat, the atmosphere was optimistic and the next meeting will be this Friday.

Further on Shamir-Peres Meeting

TA300545 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0500 GMT 30 Aug 84

[Text] An absolute majority will be needed to approve the establishment of new settlements by the national unity government — if it is established. Shim'on Peres and Yitzhaq Shamir agreed on this in their meeting in Jerusalem yesterday. No agreement was reached on a policy regarding settlements which have already been approved, but have not yet been established. Our political correspondent Shim'on Schiffer reports that it was also agreed that Jordan will be invited to join the peace process on the basis of the Camp David Accords, but this will not be mentioned in the guidelines. On Lebanon, it was decided that the peace of the Galilee settlements will be ensured and that the IDF will withdraw from Lebanon within a short period of time to be decided upon by the government.

Sources close to Shim'on Peres and Yitzhaq Shamir told our correspondent last night that the guidelines were agreed upon and that they no longer represent a stumbling block on the path toward the formation of a national unity government. Top sources in the Alignment repeated that there is a change in the party's stand on the question of rotation of premiership, but they will continue to insist that the defense portfolio be given to Yitzhaq Rabin.

MAPAM Opposes National Unity Government

TA291931 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1700 GMT 29 Aug 84

[Text] The Shinuy Secretariat has informed the Labor Party that it is not committed to supporting a narrow-based Alignment-led government under conditions which have not been determined and agreed upon in advance. It was stated that the Shinuy Movement takes a very grave view of the race in which the two large parties are engaged in competition over the small parties.

The Likud is now continuing its talks in Tel Aviv, in an attempt to consolidate a religious bloc which would be used to prevent the establishment of a narrow-based Alignment-led government. Our correspondent Amnon Nadav reports that Deputy Prime Minister David Levi is conferring with National Religious Party representatives, and that in an hour Ministers Levi, Moda'i, and Sharon and MK Roni Milo will confer with TAMI Knesset Member [MK] Aharon Abu-Hatzera.

The Tehiya Knesset faction demands that the Likud incorporate it in the negotiations on the establishment of a government and in all discussions pertaining to the basic political guidelines and settlement affairs. The Tehiya faction also demands that it be

included in the talks concerning the premiership and the composition of the government. The Tehiya faction made this decision this afternoon.

All speakers in the MAPAM Center which convened this afternoon were opposed to participating in a national unity government. Our correspondent Shalom Oren reports that the center will approve the party's positions in the negotiations over the formation of an Alignment-led government.

Herut MK Me'ir Kohen-Avidov has called for elections. He has proposed that elections be held within 3 weeks, without allocating campaign funds to the various parties and without propaganda broadcasts on television. Kohen-Avidov says the voters know what they want today, and it is hoped the results of the new elections would help establish a government in Israel.

Central Committee Rejects Unity

TA300623 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English 0500 GMT 30 Aug 84

[Text] The MAPAM Central Committee last night voted against the setting up of a national unity government. MAPAM leader Victor Shemtov said he was afraid Shim'on Peres would be prime minister of a government of paralysis.

HADASHOT Reports U.S. Desire for Unity Government

TA291942 Tel Aviv HADASHOT in Hebrew 29 Aug 84 p 20

[Report from Washington by Leon Hadar and Shlomo Frankel]

[Excerpt] A senior U.S. Administration official told *HADASHOT* that elements in the administration are involved in the internal political moves in Israel. "We have explained to the Alignment and Likud leaders and other parties in Israel that, at this stage, we support the establishment of a unity government, preferably headed by the Alignment, which would immediately get down to solving Israel's economic problems. We think that the situation in which the Alignment controls the Histadrut and the Likud can influence the Oriental sections of the community which support it, is almost ideal for the purpose of implementing an emergency economic program, while a narrow-based government headed by the Alignment would confront the populism [last word in English] of David Levi and the Oriental communities which support him." The official also believes the Alignment is preferable because "the Alignment has a greater reserve of technocrats who are capable of solving Israel's economic problems."

The U.S. Administration is worried about the possibility of a new election in Israel: "That would be the straw that breaks the camel's back," the U.S. official said. "I am sure that Peres and Shamir are aware of our concern and there is no doubt that they have taken it into account during their discussions about the establishment of a government," he continued. In the Washington official's opinion, Yitzhaq Shamir and Moshe Arens lean toward support for a unity government, even headed by Peres, while Ari'el Sharon and David Levi are opposed to it.

Labor Reports U.S. Support in Forming Government

TA292045 Tel Aviv HA'OLAM HAZE in Hebrew 29 Aug 84 p 7

[Text] The optimism that has prevailed this week in Labor Party offices at 110 Hayarkon Street, Tel Aviv, stems not only from 'Ezer Weizman's move to join the Alignment.

The party chairman's senior aides, among whom are some relatively inexperienced politicians, are beginning to grasp for the first time the many opportunities the government would open up to them.

Their message was not leaked to the press. [sentence as published] Behind the mysterious smiles so characteristic of inexperienced activists who have succeeded in obtaining information not publicly available, the name of U.S. Ambassador Samuel Lewis is repeated. This superpower has emerged as the Alignment's only hope.

Circles close to Shim'on Peres told *HA'OLAM HAZE* that the ambassador has clearly hinted that the United States is greatly interested in a Peres-led coalition in conjunction with "Weizman circles."

This U.S. interest will also be translated into money, which may foil some of the dire predictions concerning Israel's economic situation under an Alignment government.

The United States has actually promised several hundred million dollars in addition to the enormous financial aid which has already been promised. It sees Weizman as one of the architects of the Camp David accords which are still considered a tremendous achievement of the U.S. foreign policy.

Samuel Lewis and senior figures in Washington did their best to ease the Labor Party leaders' fears of a narrow-based government led by them. There is no doubt that they succeeded in bringing Weizman closer to the agreement with the Alignment which in fact put an end to Yitzhaq Shamir's candidacy for the premiership. The economists are more skeptical; they are not as ecstatic as Peres' assistants, and are doubtful about such aid in the long run. Some of them are not even certain that the promises will be kept if and when Ronald Reagan begins his second term as U.S. President.

"It is almost certain that this aid will be made conditional on Israeli gestures toward Jordan and Egypt. An Alignment-Likud government, or a narrow-based government led by Peres, will find it very difficult to meet such conditions. The U.S. reaction will be harsh. It is possible that not only additional aid will be withheld, but that aid which has already been promised will also be cut drastically."

Shamir Says Golan Heights Druze To Be Protected

TA292046 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 2000 GMT 29 Aug 84

[Text] The prime minister has said the Druze on the Golan Heights will be fully protected, using methods to be decided upon by the suitable elements. He said that 100 Golan Heights Druze

out of the 216 who have voting rights voted in the Knesset election. Shaykh Amin Tarif and representatives of the Druze in Lebanon are opposed to the boycott against the people sympathetic to Israel and this makes it easier for them. Yitzhaq Shamir was speaking at the Knesset Foreign Affairs and Defense Committee.

Arens Warns Against Being Tempted by IDF Flaws

TA291401 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1345 GMT 29 Aug 84

[Text] Defense Minister Moshe Arens has warned Israel's enemies not to get involved in adventurous activity against Israel on the basis of U.S newspaper criticism of the IDF. Mr Arens has said that this is his only worry about that criticism. He continued by saying that critics prefer to remain anonymous and this causes nonobjective reportage.

Our correspondent David Essing adds that the defense minister said there has never been a war without mistakes, but the wise thing is to locate the mistakes and guarantee they will not happen again. The defense minister was speaking to the International Congress of Jewish Jurists, being held in Jerusalem.

Kahane Released From Custody; Village Calm

TA291501 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1400 GMT 29 Aug 84

[Text] Knesset Member Meir Kahane has left the 'Iron police station, where he was taken after he defied a police request not to march to Umm al-Fahm. In the village itself, emotions have calmed down following this afternoon's rioting, during which three policemen were injured.

The police force inspector-general has sent a cable of thanks to the commander of the Northern District, the local policemen, and members of the border police for their restraint and tolerance in keeping public order in Umm al-Fahm. Commissioner Arye 'Ivtzan also sent wishes for the rapid recovery of the policemen who were injured.

Shamir Criticizes Court Ruling on Kahane, Mi'ari

TA291535 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1500 GMT 29 Aug 84

[Text] The prime minister says that ever since the high court of justice ruled that Kahane [of the KAKH list] and Mi'ari [of the Progressive List for Peace] could run for the Knesset, he has been aware of the bitter results this would have.

In an appearance before the Knesset Foreign Affairs and Defense Committee, Shamir criticized those who deal with interpretation of the law, saying they occasionally do not fully take security matters into consideration and should act otherwise.

Regarding reports published in the United States on IDF blunders during the Lebanese war, Shamir said there is no connection between the material the IDF transferred to the Pentagon and the reports *THE WASHINGTON TIMES* published. What the paper has reported is a lie, he noted.

Concerning aid to Sri Lanka, the prime minister said Israeli Foreign Ministry representatives and agriculture experts are there and we have nothing to do with the riots and terror in that country.

Right-Wing, Leftist Parties Condemn Kahane

TA292055 Jerusalem Television Service in Hebrew 1900 GMT 29 Aug 84

[Text] The Tehiya movement has condemned Knesset Member [MK] Meir Kahane's provocative action in Umm al-Fahm and, in an announcement it issued this evening, it states that Kahane's actions are causing unnecessary and harmful ferment among the Arab population.

And two MK's from the Progressive List for Peace, Matityahu Peled and Muhammad Mi'ari, today demanded that the responsibility of the minister of the interior and the police for the events in Umm al-Fahm be put on the Knesset agenda.

U.S. 'Angry' Over Failure To Act on Economy

TA292026 Tel Aviv HADASHOT in Hebrew 29 Aug 84 pp 20, 21

[Report from Washington by Leon Hadar]

[Text] U.S. Administration officials have told *HADASHOT* that they are angry. The reason is: "The continued nonfunctioning of the Israeli Government in the economic field." They said that if the government does not get down to saving the Israeli economy within a few days, a catastrophe is expected.

One senior official mentioned the fact that the Israeli Cabinet ended its Sunday session without reaching a decision about far-reaching economic measures, contrary to the U.S. Administration's recommendations. For several weeks Washington has been pressuring the Israeli Government to implement a far-reaching program. According to the Americans, the program should include a large devaluation of the shekel, significant cuts in the state budget, particularly in subsidies and the settlement budget, and a halt to the indexing of salaries to the rate of inflation. The Americans are also going into detail. They think there should be an organizational reform of the Bank of Israel.

The administration has a carrot and stick approach. If no such program is implemented, the administration will refuse to grant Israel's requests for an increase in economic aid. There is also the risk that the adoption of legislation to establish a free trade zone will be delayed. Ideas for the elimination of some of Israel's debts, or the transfer of the entire aid sum in October, also will be held up.

The senior official believes Capitol Hill is very tired of Israel. Congressmen and journalists return from Israel and tell stories about the high standard of living and the unwillingness of the public and government to tighten their belts. The senior official

said: "This is very infuriating. The Egyptians and the Latin American countries, whose economic situations are worse than yours, have agreed to cut subsidies, despite the fact that this step is jeopardizing the regimes there. But you scorn every idea to correct your economy. You must know that despite the fact that the administration and Congress are facing an election in November, no miracles are to be expected from the United States."

Another administration official said that Secretary of State George Shultz and his aides are most concerned about the decrease in Israel's foreign currency reserves. They think it will not be long before the international community is unwilling to give Israel any credit. "You are facing the red line," the official said, "but your political leaders are occupied in political plots."

Secretary of State George Shultz established two advisory committees at the end of 1983 which dealt with Israel's economic problems. The first was an internal State Department committee. The second was a committee of private economic advisers headed by Herbert Stein, a well-known economist, including Paul McCracken and Charles Schultze, who held senior posts in the Nixon and Ford administrations.

The two committees have not submitted specific programs to solve the economic problems. They have met with Israeli officials on several occasions to keep an eye on the Israeli plans.

One of the important meetings was held this March, before the state budget was submitted in Israel. "We were impressed by several of the plans submitted by Kohen-Orgad, the U.S. official said. "Among other things, they mentioned a 9 percent cut in the budget and there were hints of a possible cut in the settlement budget and the subsidies. However," the official said, "when the election campaign began, no remnant of the 'pretty plans' was left."

The cut in the budget was less than 4 percent and there was no change in the settlement budget. The official told *HADASHOT* that the group of private advisers had shown a certain amount of interest in Yoram Aridor's dollarization program and expressed support for a further devaluation of the shekel and a halt to the indexing of salaries to inflation.

U.S. Aid Must Be Lump Sum To Save Economy

TA300715 Jerusalem THE JERUSALEM POST in English 30 Aug pp 1, 2

[Report by economic editor Me'ir Merhav]

[Excerpt] The country's foreign currency reserves will dwindle to virtually zero by the end of the year, unless the U.S. agrees to give Israel the entire amount of the $2.6 billion 1984-85 aid package in one lump sum soon, an authoritative source told *THE JERUSALEM POST* yesterday.

If the aid package comes in quarterly installments, as it always has so far (except last December, when the U.S. advanced Israel the entire outstanding amount of aid for 1983/84), the shortfall between expenditures and receipts in Israel's foreign currency cash flow will amount to between $1.5 billion and $1.8 billion. With foreign currency reserves run down in July alone by some $900 million to stand at about $2 billion instead of the $3 billion maintained for the past seven years, only an American bailout can save Israel from being left with virutally no reserves. *THE POST* has learned that nearly half the drain on the reserves last month occurred in the last few days before the July 23 elections.

Economic observers, including some in top civil service positions, see the economy's total dependence on U.S. aid for solving its immediate liquidity problems as the worst economic crisis the country has faced since the first two or three years of independence.

The Knesset Finance Committee this week debated the state of the foreign currency reserves and heard belated reports from Kohen-Orgad and Bank of Israel Governor Dr Moshe Mandelbaum on the grave state of the country's foreign payments position. But the committee did not insist on a full disclosure of the facts behind these dire warnings. A motion to censure the two men responsible for the management of the country's foreign currency reserves was stymied by the committee's chairman, Avraham Shapira.

High-ranking present and past civil servants and other informed observers assume that the U.S. Administration will not present political demands in connection with Israel's request to receive the entire aid package in one lump sum, and may even — in consideration of the current political stalemate — postpone the demand that Israel submit an economic stabilization programme. But the observers believe that any requests for additional aid will depend on the presentation of a long-term economic recovery programme.

In the view of these observers, inflation is the immediate issue that the U.S. Administration wants tackled. A 400 percent rate of inflation — which, moreover, is repressed by the maintenance of subsidies, without which it might be considerably higher — is regarded by the U.S. Government as reflecting gross economic mismanagement.

That is also, to a large extent, the view of the international financial community. The immediate balance-of-payments problem which Jerusalem officials and political leaders assume the U.S. will be prepared to help them solve, is only second in order of priorities.

Even assuming that the U.S. Administration agrees to advance Israel the entire amount of aid in one lump sum, an additional $1 billion will still have to be borrowed long-term, and on tolerable conditions, to restore foreign currency reserves to their customary level of some three months' worth of imports. And since it is most unlikely that Israel will be able to borrow this additional $1 billion from commercial banks, the only possible source will be the U.S. Government.

Finance Minister Yig'al Kohen-Orgad has constantly cited the $500 million improvement in the trade balance as his major policy achievement, but economic observers doubt whether this improvement will continue for the rest of this year even if a government is formed within days and a coherent long-term

economic programme is formulated within weeks. Implementation, these sources point out, will necessarily take time, and no appreciable effects on the balance of trade can be expected in the very near future.

The country's present utter dependence on U.S. aid for its cash flow and for the extra $1 billion that will have to be borrowed may, in addition, adversely affect the private sector's ability to maintain its normal credit lines, although objectively the financial position of the commercial banking system vis-a-vis its foreign creditors is sound.

IDF Crosses Al-Awwali in Search of 'Terrorists'

TA291717 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1700 GMT 29 Aug 84

[Text] An armored IDF force crossed the Al-Awwali River today heading north and patrolled the western sector of Lebanon and the area west of Jabal al-Baruq. Our military correspondent Shmu'el Tal reports that the tanks and armored personnel carriers patrolled the villages of Barja, Shhim, and Siblin; villages in the Jabal al-Baruq area; the western slopes of Jabal al-Baruq; and the strip of Druze villages evacuated by the IDF when it redeployed to the Al-Awwali River line. The action was taken because of the attempts by the terrorists to reentrench north of the Al-Awwali in the Al-Kharrub region.

Security sources have said that the IDF will not permit the terrorists to reentrench there and it will work against them wherever they may be found.

Further on IDF Patrol

TA291808 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1705 GMT 29 Aug 84

[Report by military correspondent Shmu'el Tal — recorded]

[Text] The IDF force which crossed the Al-Awwali River today heading north included tanks and armored personnel carriers. The force patrolled two sectors, one being the western sector, where the terrorists recently tried to reentrench themselves, especially in the Al-Kharrub region.

The IDF units patrolled the villages of Barja, Shumayyisah, Shim, Kitrmaya, and Siblin. The presence of the terrorists in these villages has been evident in a number of ways. The other sector patrolled was to the east, from the western slopes of Jabal al-Baruk and to the strip of Druze villages including Walid al-Junblatt's village of Al-Mukhtarah.

Soldiers regularly patrol the area to make their presence known and to maintain good relations with the villagers. They want to make it clear to the villagers that the IDF can return to the region whenever it so desires and that it does so when necessary; thus, the villagers had better not allow the terrorists to raise their heads in the area.

The IDF patrols the region to prevent terrorists from becoming entrenched; today's action should be viewed as part of this effort. We learned from security circles this evening that the IDF's policy is to attack the terrorists wherever they and their collaborators may be.

At the same time, the terrorists have demonstrated a great deal of daring. Today they acted in an area which had been incident-free for quite some time: They planted a bomb on the shoulder of the road linking the Beaufort Castle to the Al-Khardali Bridge and three soldiers were wounded as a result of the explosion. It can be said that this incident will trigger an alarm because up till now the terrorists have acted in areas considered their centers, north and west of this area, rather than the villages which are adjacent to the border. An incident near Marj 'Uyun can point to a trend toward escalation and possibly a change in the terrorists' policy.

Christians Fear Attack in Ash-Shuf Mountains

TA291219 Tel Aviv MA'ARIV in Hebrew 29 Aug 84 p 4

[Report by Arab affairs correspondent Shefi Gabay]

[Excerpt] The political Shi'ite and Sunni leaders in southern Lebanon have different opinions concerning the current anti-Israeli activity. Most are doubtful regarding the effect of armed resistance and favor quiet cooperation by all ethnic groups in the south.

Over the last 3 days the Druze militia of Walid Junblatt has been concentrating large forces in the Ash-Shuf Mountains in the Al-Kharrub region, and it is feared that they intend to attack 18 Christian villages inhabited by 20,000 people. Nizar Najarian, a Christian official in southern Lebanon, told this to the *MA'ARIV* correspondent in the village of Jazzin which borders the Ash-Shuf Mountains.

Najarian said that the Christians still place their complete trust in the agreement reached some time ago on the return of refugees to their homes. He warned that Junblatt's control of the area would provide the terrorists with new territory in an area close to the IDF-controlled areas.

Lebanese Activities Coordinator Interviewed

TA292130 Tel Aviv Radio in Hebrew 1605 GMT 29 Aug 84

[Interview with Uri Lubrani, Israeli coordinator of activities in Lebanon, by Ya'aqov Elon on the "Gunsight" program — time and place not given, recorded]

[Text] [Lubrani] If that quotation is correct [referring to reports of Walid Junblatt's willingness to open negotiations with Israel], then, in fact, he, Junblatt, is expressing the views of those people in the Lebanese political arena who understand the situation as it is and know that, first, there is Lebanese power to arrive at arrangements in southern Lebanon that will permit the IDF to leave; second, that that must be done through direct contacts between the sides and not through mediators, something which, generally speaking, distorts and complicates negotiations. Third, any arrangement that any Lebanese authority can reach with Israel, whatever type of arrangement, must, somewhere or other,

be agreed upon by the Syrians, since, for the moment, the Government of Lebanon is one that functions under Syrian patronage and supervision.

[Elon] We will go back to that again later. To what do you atrribute this softening, if we can call it that, in Junblatt's position?

[Lubrani] I do not attribute it to any softening. I can only say that, in general, he sees things clearly and sometimes when he makes statements, we must consider who he is addressing and why. I beleive that, for the purpose of his image in the United States, and considering that the *LOS ANGELES TIMES* is one of the prestigious papers in the United States, he said things that will certainly be seen as logical to the U.S. public.

[Elon] What is Israel's condition for resuming direct negotiations with Lebanon?

[Lubrani] I am not speaking and I do not want to speak about conditions. We need security arrangements in the north that will permit the IDF to leave. We very much want these arrangements to be achieved through direct negotiations and we want them to truly last. I think we are not yet at this point.

[Elon] The government in Lebanon, the Karami government, is working under Syrian aegis, as you mentioned earlier. Can we speak of any contacts whatsoever between Israel and the administration in Beirut since the closure of the Israeli representation?

[Lubrani] The administration in Beirut knows how to reach us and it has no difficulties in reaching us with any sort of message, any sort of proposal, so that is not the difficulty. The difficulty is that it must come to a decision to present us with a proposal or the message, and it has many channels through which it can do so.

[Elon] The regime in Syria is not as strong today as it once was. This refers to internal struggles and President al-Asad's illness.

Can we not take advantage of this situation in Damascus to reach some sort of arrangement with it about Lebanon?

[Lubrani] Why are you actually assuming the regime is weak? And if, for the moment, we assume it is weak, why are you assuming it will be easier to reach an arrangement with a weak regime than with a strong one? There are people who claim that the situation is just the opposite, that a strong regime can permit itself to reach arrangements that a weak regime cannot. I do not know, when it comes down to it, if we can describe today's regime as a weak one.

I think that as long as Al-Asad is at least functioning as the president of Syria, I would not describe the regime in Syria as a weak one. The Syrians have considerations of their own and, at this stage, at least, as far as this can be tested, they are not at all inclined to talk to us.

[Elon] Their have been reports of meetings you held in Switzerland with Rif'at al-Asad or people close to him. Can you confirm these reports?

[Lubrani] There is a proverb in Arabic, that there is no tax on speech. So, I suggest applying that proverb to this case, too. People have said there were meetings. There were no meetings and I do not want to comment on this.

[Elon] Yesterday's Air Force raid: According to the reports from Lebanon, dozens of people were killed in that raid, including senior officers from the Abu Musa [Sa'id Musa Muragha] faction. What is the policy that guides military operations of this type?

[Lubrani] The Government of Israel's policy has always been, and I assume it will continue to be, to search for the sources of attacks against Israel wherever they are, and, of course, we are also aware that there are such sources in Lebanon and whenever we have reports that there is a cache either of terrorists or of terrorists' weapons or intentions to attack Israel, the State of Israel uses its power. Yesterday's raid should be seen as part of that policy.

[Elon] Is a resumption of attacks on Beirut, too, to be expected, since, according to reports, the terrorists are returning and establishing an infrastructure there?

[Lubrani] I do not want to say what is or is not to be expected, but the policy exists to search wherever it is clear to us that there are terrorists, to search for them and foil actions against Israel.

[Elon] The number of attacks against the IDF forces stationed in southern Lebanon are increasing sharply.

Apart from the military means, what else can be done to cope with this phenomenon?

[Lubrani] The IDF is doing whatever can be done to cope with that problem. One way is to make our forces more efficient. Another is to hand over areas under the routine responsibility of the IDF to the army of southern Lebanon.

There are all sorts of ways of handling the problem and, in general, the IDF is dealing with it. It is trying to do everything possible to decrease the number of attacks and, in this context, the number of casualties, too.

[Elon] In this context, taking punitive measures against the local population?

[Lubrani] There is no policy of collective punishment. Under no circumstances, no. We are trying not to upset daily life of that population. That does not mean that people here and there are not being hurt.

There are indeed a number of problems connected with the movement of that population from southern Lebanon to the north, to which it is, naturally, connected, and in that respect there are difficulties, but since there is a hostile intention to infiltrate through those passes, to infiltrate weapons and terrorists into southern Lebanon, we must be alert and maintain a very punctilious supervision over all those who are involved.

This, of course, is causing no few difficulties.

Blum Denies Lebanese Accusations in UNSC

TA300659 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English 0500 GMT 30 Aug 84

[Text] Israel is prepared to negotiate with the Lebanese Government on appropriate mutual security arrangements in south Lebanon. This was stated by Israel's Ambassador to the United Nations Yehuda Blum, who last night rejected Lebanon's allegation at the Security Council that Israel had imposed a siege on south Lebanon. Details from reporter Shim'on Feinberger:

[Feinberger — live] Lebanese Ambassador Rahsid Fakhuri told the council that Israel's aim was to enter what he called occupied territories in the south so it can carry out expansionist ambitions. Fakhuri charged that Israel had engaged in repression and torture of local inhabitants and has diverted water from south Lebanon into Israel. Israel's Ambassador Yehuda Blum dismissed the Lebanese complaint as totally false and unfounded. Blum was later asked what the message was he tried to convey to the council members.

[Blum — recorded] I sought to contrast the situation as it prevails in the south with the overall situation in Lebanon to the north of the Al-'Awwali River. And that is to point out that this exercise in the council is in actual fact a diversionary exercise of the highest degree. [end recording]

[Feinberger — live] Ambassador Blum also accused the warring Lebanese factions and outside powers of inciting terrorists to attack Israeli troops in the south.

Blum admitted that the need to combat the terrorists obviously entails a certain degree of hardship for the civilian population.

Lebanon's position in the debate was supported by Egypt, a council member, and by non-members Syria and Kuwait, who were invited to participate at their request. The debate resumes later today.

Irish Labor Minister Arrives for Visit

TA300919 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0800 GMT 30 Aug 84

[Text] Ruairi Qyinn, Ireland's minister for labor, arrived in Israel yesterday. He will remain here for a week as the guest of Labor Minister Aharon Uzan, and will also meet with the president and the prime minister.

Our correspondent Gid'on Remez notes that this is the first visit by an Irish minister after many years, and Jerusalem attributes much importance to the visit as Ireland is the present rotating chairman of the EEC.

Burundian Says Exact Date for OAU Summit Not Set
EA281830 Bujumbura Domestic Service in French 1100 GMT 28 Aug 84

[Text] The minister of foreign affairs and cooperation, Laurent Nzeyimana, received the press this morning to discuss an AFP report which said the OAU Secretariat has announced that the OAU summit will take place in Addis Ababa from 12 to 15 November.

According to the minister, the acting OAU chairman and Ethiopian head of state, Mengistu Haile Mariam, in fact sent a letter to other African heads of state proposing to hold the 20th OAU summit during the first 2 weeks in November. The final date will be fixed after the heads of state have replied, with due consideration for their other commitments.

For Burundi, which is to host the Franco-African summit, added the minister, consultations were necessary to avoid an overlap which could be prejudicial to the benefit and efficiency of the two conferences. A sufficient gap between them was indispensable.

ALGERIA

France's Cheysson Arrives, Begins Talks

LD291941 Algiers Domestic Service in French 1830 GMT 29 Aug 84

[Text] French External Relations Minister Mr Claude Cheysson arrived this afternoon in Algiers for a 2-day visit. He was met at the airport by his Algerian counterpart, Ahmed Taleb Ibrahimi, and by the ambassadors of Algeria to France and of France to Algeria. The object of the visit is explained by Claude Cheysson himself:

[Begin recording] As you know, there are continuous contacts between Algeria and France, and it is interesting and important for us that the contacts should include the possibility of an exchange of political views. I dropped in — if I may say so — to see my friend, the Algerian foreign affairs minister, in May for 2 hours. I took the liberty of [telling] him to make sure to be in Algiers for 1-2 days so that we could compare our views and exchange views on various topical political problems. As regards world problems Algeria has a certain influence and importance in the world arena, and its assessment of world problems is of interest to us; I mean East-West tension, the disarmament problems, the preparation of the UN session, the regional problems in America, Africa, and the Middle East. If you wish, tomorrow at the time of my departure some conclusions may be drawn.

In addition, it is a good thing that the bilateral problems between Algeria and France, which are dealt with by all our colleagues on a technical level, should sometimes be reviewed from a political angle. If my counterpart agrees with me, this is what we are going to do this afternoon. [end recording]

That was a statement by Mr Claude Cheysson at the airport, which explains the background airplane noise. The Algerian-French talks started soon afterward, chaired respectively by Messrs Cheysson and Ibrahimi.

LIBYA

Al-Qadhdhafi Receives Moroccan Officials

LD291923 Tripoli Domestic Service in Arabic 1230 GMT 29 Aug 84

[Text] The brother leader of the revolution received Brother Ahmed Reda Guedira, adviser to the Moroccan king, and Driss Basri, Moroccan minister of the interior.

Reportage on Al-Fatih Revolution Anniversary

Ethiopian Deputy Premier Arrives

LD291656 Tripoli JANA in English 1456 GMT 29 Aug 84

[Text] Tripoli, 2 Dulhijja, 29 August, JAMAHIRIYAH NEWS AGENCY — Fikre-Selassie, the secretary general of the Provisional Military Council and deputy premier in socialist Ethiopia arrived here at the head of an Ethiopian delegation to attend the Libyan Arab people's celebrations commemorating the Great Al-Fatih Revolution's 15th anniversary. Brigadier Abu Bakr Yunis Jabir, the commander-in-chief of the Libyan Arab Armed Forces was at Tripoli International Airport to greet the Ethiopian guest and his delegation, assisted by the ambassador and members of the Ethiopian diplomatic delegation in Jamahiriyah.

Fikre-Selassie made a statement to JANA correspondent in which he expressed his personal and his delegation's happiness to join the Libyan Arab people in their celebrations. He added: "I have come to Jamahiriyah carrying the greetings of President Mengistu Haile-Mariam and the Ethiopian people to the Libyan Arab people and the leader of their revolution on this occasion. I cherish this visit. When all of us in Ethiopia are about to celebrate the 10th anniversary of the Ethiopian revolution and birth of the party. However, in the light of the strong militant relations between us, we have insisted to be here to join the Libyan Arab people in their happiness.

Fikre-Selassie also saluted the Libyan Arab people on the 15th anniversary of the Great Al-Fatih Revolution, emphasising the depth and development of relations between the two countries, today more than ever. He said our coming here to participate in the celebrations is evidence of the depth of these relations.

Al-Qadhdhafi Addresses Anniversary Meeting

LD292104 Tripoli JANA in English 1949 GMT 29 Aug 84

[Text] Tripoli, 2 Dulhijja, 29 August, JAMAHIRIYAH NEWS AGENCY — The leader of the revolution this evening attended the opening ceremony of the international conference for solidarity with the Libyan Arab people organised on the 15th anniversary of the Great Al-Fatih September Revolution. Over 500 delegates from popular and political parties and organisations, liberation movements, social and trade union organisations, peace and solidarity committees, friendship societies and dignitaries from all parts of the world are taking part. Amidst tumultuous chanting in support of the Great Al-Fatih Revolution and in esteem of its principled stands vis-a-vis liberation causes and in confrontation of imperialist challenges the leader began his speech:

Dear sirs, I have found myself obliged to stand before you, hailing and highly regarding this international political demonstration towards my people, my country and their revolution. It is the duty of all Libyans to stand in one rank to greet you and hail your meeting as the international political support for Al-Fatih Revolution.

The invaluable importance is that your delegations should come from all parts of the world, representing your free peoples and liberation movements to peoples struggling for the sake of freedom, and in the name of progressive regimes and national governments together with popular organisations and trade unions, representing workers, peasants, professionals and craftsmen in the world as well as prominent personalities with a political, social and literary weight throughout the world.

This international gathering comes in support of the Al-Fatih Revolution. I still insist on the importance of this international

demonstration which obliged me to stand before you in total respect, calling on Libyans to do so as well.

The leader went on to say that this international political gathering comes at a time when other parties, today in this world, are unaware and unashamed of the extent of the shamelessness and arrogance when classifying the historical Al-Fatih Revolution, irresponsibly and with the least minimum of logic, as for instance, a military coup or a call for terrorism. The source of high morale and more pride and confidence in the revolution for the Libyan revolutionary men and women is the fact that they have repeatedly retaliated against the enemies in defence of the revolution, through all possible means, by saying the right word or remaining silent, by responding with the sound of bulldozers, pickaxes, motors and plows which cultivate the land, vanquish the desert, bring alive the dead, turn the sands into gold, turn the yellow into green, render the slave master, the needy satisfied and the unhappy happy. But the enemies of the green colour, the colour of growth and of spring, that of paradise, the colour of the trees and grass, the enemies of the green colour, of freedom and life, the enemies of peace, headed by the enemy of humanity, the murderer of peoples and annihilator of races, the United States, which liquidated the Red Indian and is annihilating the nation of blacks, is working day and night, through its racist tool in the Middle East, Zionism, to liquidate the Arab nation.

It began with the Palestinians, then the Lebanese and is now preparing to swallow the rest of the peoples of the Arab nation.

I say, after responding with convincing talk and with highly progressive civilised deeds instead of talking, considering the insistance of the enemies of the green colour to work uninterruptedly against the line of growth and life heralded by the green colour, work that culminated in the abortive aircraft carrier and frigates' aggression against the Gulf of Sidra, in the despatching of terrorist and assassination teams, as you have heard, under the instructions of the CIA to freely move to get rid of the leadership of this revolution, using poison and electronic equipment which are the lowest and most barbaric means, after all this, then, your delegations arrived from all parts of the world to Libya in which there is the revolution of [as received] terrorism, instability, and dictatorship. This international demonstration of liberation movements, peoples and national governments, popular organisations and prominent personalities of the world, then, comes to support in the name of the majority of the forces of freedom, goodness and peace in the world, to support Al-Fatih Revolution on its 15th anniversary, as if you were saying to your friends and brother Libyan men and women, through this demonstration, enjoy the 15th anniversary of your revolution and continue the giant march of work. Let your radios chant the songs of freedom and construction. Do not give time to retaliate against the enemies of the green colour. Here we have come in this international demonstration which alone is capable of responding to the enemics.

The leader of the revolution went on to say that it is unlikely for the peoples of Asia, Africa, Latin America, international liberation movements, popular organisations and international personalities to come and greet the 15th anniversary of a terrorist or dictatorial revolution. He emphasised that after this, whoever harms the Al-Fatih only doubts the credibility of all international forces present in this massive international political demonstration.

The leader went on to say: Thus, as [I] have said, I found myself obliged under all conditions of respect, to stand before you, not to make a speech about our revolution and my country, but to hail and praise your presence which is the healing response to our revolution and country.

He said: If there is anything I would like your permission to confirm and to present is the assured promise and strong pledge which I make here before you that my country will be truely the international platform for the fight against colonialism, racism, fascism and reaction, that it will be the natural and historical ally for the struggle of your movements and peoples. We propose to you that my country becomes truly an international platform for the fight against colonialism, racism, fascism and reaction, that it will be the natural and historical ally for your movements and peoples. We propose to you that we begin from Libya, the fortress of freedom and state of the masses, in building the collective struggle for our peoples according to the charter of the international platform, against the common enemy from occupied Palestine and South Africa to Grenada, Chad, Reunion and Namibia, from the Gulf of Sidra to the harbours of Nicaragua and from the Caledonian Archipeligo to Northern Ireland. Let us begin the collective struggle to liberate French colonies in the Reunion, Caledonia, Martinique and New Guyana. [as received]

The leader went on to say: As for Libyan men and women, I can assure you that America will not defeat themm, although it could liquidate them. One million men and women can possibly participate in the battle. This figure gradually increases according to the theory of the rise of the armed people. This is not compulsary nor is it through choice, it is a need arising from the disappearance of the government — the authority of force — in Libya, through the rise of the people's authority with popular congresses and committees and, the inciting of the revolutionary committees, since the second of March 1977. With the move of authority to the hands of the people, the cancelling of the government and the rise of the green socialism based on liquidating employers wage workers, wages, profit, rent, business and the establishment of private property to satisfy the need of its owners alone, with the establishment of the society-owned socialist establishment [words indistinct] partners not wage workers, endeavours to show new partnerships with the rise of the new socialism, heralded in the second party of the Green Book, with the rise of the people's authority through the people's congresses and committees heralded in the first part of the Green Book, appeared for the first time in the history of the world the state of the masses — Jamahiriyah. Therefore came the need for masses to defend themselves by themselves in protection of the authority which is now in their hands, without government.

And in protection of the wealth which is now restored to them, without exploitation, thanks to the revolution and socialism, a series of civilised transformations were established, benefiting from the oil wealth which was exploited by English and American monopolies, together with a series of other transformations beginning from the house to replace the tent and cabin, from the institutes for the handicapped to heavy industry factories. All this has urged on the masses the need to speedily shoulder the

within the framework of coordination between the two countries. Hence the results can only be good.

Present conditions acquire a special importance, particularly as we are approaching the OAU conference and in view of the situation in our area since it has become evident to all that the Moroccan regime constitutes a threat to all the area's peoples. [Words indistinct] and persistence in disregarding the peace plan which was internationally approved.

As I said, it is important then, that we coordinate so that we march forward together toward the objectives of our people [word indistinct] our countries, our region, and our continent. [end recording]

MOROCCO

Briefs

Minister Returns From PRC — Casablanca, Aug 29 (MAP) — Dr Said Belbachir, Moroccan minister of cultural affairs returned home Tuesday afternoon following a fortnight visit to the People's Republic of China. Dr Belbachir met with several Chinese officials including his counterpart, Mr Zhu Muzhi, with whom he signed an agreement regarding the cultural exchanges between Morocco and China for the 1984-86 period. This agreement reinforces the bilateral cultural cooperation and expands it to sectors such as arts, education, information as well as social and religious areas. [Text] [*Rabat MAP in English 1215 GMT 29 Aug 84 LD*]

SUDAN

4 Injured in Assault on Nile Ferryboat

JN291821 Khartoum SUNA in English 1720 GMT 29 Aug 84

[Text] Khartoum, 29 Aug (SUNA) — The ferry *Arak* which is working between Malakal and Nasir [was] subjected to the outlaws firing at Ad-Dawmah village at the Sobat River yesterday, an official source in the general command of the Armed Forces stated today. The source, in a statement to SUNA, disclosed that only four members of the Armed Forces were slightly injured in the assault. The Armed Forces are chasing the rebels, inflicting heavy losses on them and forced them to flee the area. Simultaneously, the source, retorting to a question from SUNA about the outlaws repeated communiques, said [that] they were not realistic and [were] blank utterances.

ETHIOPIA

TPLF Claims 211 Government Troops Killed 14-23 Aug

EA291943 Mogadishu Domestic Service in Somali 1700 GMT 29 Aug 84

[Text] A statement released today by the Tigre People's Liberation Front [TPLF] office in Mogadishu says that the gallant fighters of the front killed 211 enemy Abyssinian soldiers and took 4 others prisoner in engagements which took place 14-23 August at Adigrat, Debub — south of Inticho — and Adawa.

The statement adds that the TPLF fighters also captured a very large quantity of arms and other military hardware and three vehicles. The intrepid fighters of the TPLF also burned a military vehicle.

The TPLF said today that the Abyssinian regime has not succeeded in its attempt to cripple the people of Tigre in the political, economic, social, and military sectors.

SOMALIA

Radio Halgan Interviews New SNM Chairman

EA291414 (Clandestine) Radio Halgan in Somali to Somalia 1800 GMT 27 Aug 84

[Interview of new Somali National Movement Chairman Ahmed Mohamed Silanyo by unidentified reporter — date, place not given]

[Excerpts] [Reporter] Fighter [form of address for Silanyo], now that you have returned from Britain, would you tell us when you left that mother country?

[Silanyo] I left home in March 1982.

[Reporter] Fighter Silanyo, could you please tell us what forced you to flee the country. What did you not like?

[Silanyo] I was forced to flee the country and join the Somali opposition movements when I realized that the present system (?ruling) the country was opposed to the interests of the Somali people. I did at one time serve the system that ruled that government. It seemed to get worse as time went by while many honest people serving the regime believed that things would change for the better. Unfortunately, this did not happen. The economic, political, and social situation in the country was getting out of hand. A situation arose unprecedented in the history of the Somali people. There was only one way the Somali people could fight the oppression and injustices inflicted on them, such as the daily massacres, destruction of villages, poisoning of wells when we live in a country with little rain, when mines have been planted to indiscriminately kill nomads, camels, shaykhs, traders, students, teachers, soldiers, and politicians.

We have dead people and some languishing in jails and some with swords pointed at their necks. When the government leaders shamelessly said that they took power with the barrel of the gun and will continue to rule by the rifle and nobody can break them, when the system of government changed into a dictatorial regime ruled by one family, it made us realize that it was the right of every humane Somali to fight and resist such conditions. This made us believe that such machinations and policies would not be tolerated by the Somali people and that, therefore, they should be confronted and rejected. When there is no other way to bring about change and there is no acceptance of any talk of forming opposition parties, it becomes justifiable to take up arms against this regime that rules by the barrel of the gun. This is what made me leave the country and made me joint the opposition movements, namely the Somali National Movement [SNM].

[Reporter] Since you are familiar with the Siad Barre regime, as you were a prominent member of the ruling clique, you know that Siad at one time decided when he usurped power that he would rule using a socialist system of goverment. Until now he has not carried out any of his promises. In fact, now he emulates capitalist nations like the United States. Could you tell us more about these vacillations?

[Silanyo] The reasons for these vacillations are known to the Somali public. The man who rules that country does not believe in any policy, but is obsessed with the greed to continue ruling. It is his policy to go anywhere he pleases or divert from any path he thinks unprofitable. His slogan for this inconsistency is, "For the people's interests." The people's interests, or the Somali people's interests, do not take them to South Africa. Reports reaching us say he has established strong ties with South Africa.

This confusion is the result of not sticking to any sort of policy catering to the people and of going any way that suits him. Siad is known to use this saying: If our interests take us to Satan we shall go along with him. It is possible that one's ties with governments can change due to international circumstances and that people's interests change and so can their ties with other nations. But when one faces such a situation, it is imperative for him to safeguard the people's interests, to hand over power to other people who will serve that new interest. The policy of scientific socialism which he said would be used in the country was not genuine or true. He used it to [word indistinct].

[Reporter] If you remember, in January 1983 armed men attacked and freed innocent people imprisoned in Madera Prison. Siad Barre later described the commando force as a foreign force. What would you say about that?

[Silanyo] It is known that when the forces freed prisoners at Madera Prison they were not foreign forces. They were members of the SNM; this needs no elaboration. More people have been put in Madera since then and even more people have been imprisoned since. [sentence as heard] Many of them have been transferred to unknown prisons in other parts of the country. The world and the Somali people know that no foreigners masterminded the escape from Madera but that these people were freed by Somali freedom fighters.

[Reporter] Before you came to attend the general congress at which you were elected the chairman of the SNM, you were chairman of the movement's branch in Britain. Could you tell us when this branch in London was formed?

[Silanyo] The London SNM branch is not new. In fact, the SNM held its first formation meeting in London. Before the formation, people were engaged in some sort of struggle from there so the movement, or the struggle, was not new in London. The movement began there in 1981.

[Reporter] Fighter Silanyo, could you brief us on how strong the Somali opposition movements are in Western Europe?

[Silanyo] The Somali opposition in Western Europe is strong and is widespread. Of late many people have sought political asylum in European countries. It seems that more people are fleeing the country due to the continuing oppression. The movements have opened offices in many centers. Huge demonstrations are held in all these places, including the United States.

There was a large demonstration in England on 30 June. It also happened in [word indistinct]. Many offices have been opened and opposition is spreading.

[Reporter] Fighter Ahmed Mohamed Silanyo, since you were elected SNM chairman this is the first time you have spoken on Radio Halgan on behalf of the party [as heard] and on your own behalf. The Somali people wherever they are will pay particular interest to anything you might say. Is there anything you wish to say, or any advice you might wish to give?

[Solanyo] Let me say first of all that the movement, as its name suggests, is a national opposition movement which has vowed to counter the oppression, the injustices and massacres against the Somali people. Since the crisis and the victimization is getting out of hand, the SNM, and other Somali opposition movements, have taken up arms. This movement is spread countrywide and is aimed at ridding the country of oppression. These are some of the movement's aims. This is in our Constitution. These are also some of the issue we are discussing today.

We ask the Somali people listening to us to have patience with all the injustices inflicted upon them. We also ask them not to believe the lies being told to them.

This is not a struggle being waged by a few individuals, nor is it a minute war. It is a war being fought inside the country and everywhere. It is war for the restoration of people's freedom, dignity, and respect. People should not be afraid to fight for all these rights. They should not be afraid to fight against the oppression and the brutality. They should confront and counter this dictatorial system that is feeding them with endless lies.

They should not only depend on the people who have taken up arms. People should begin revolts everywhere in order to destroy and fight the oppression because if you continue to accept such oppression, it will continue.

I call upon the Somali people not to accept such conditions. I praise the fighters who have sacrificed their lives to liberate the motherland and those who have pioneered this war. We continue to pray for their success.

UGANDA

Opposition Leader Claims Up To 500,000 Killed Since '81

EA291339 Nairobi THE DAILY NATION in English 29 Aug 84 p 4

[Unidentified correspondent's article: "Half a Million Killed — Claim"]

[Excerpt] Opposition Democratic Party leader Paul Semogerere claimed today the number of Ugandans who have died during clashes between government troops and armed dissidents since 1981 is somewhere between 300,000 and half a million. Mr Semogerere, who was addressing a press conference at his party headquarters, said the figure of 100,000 he gave some time last year was an under-estimation and that in any case many more have since died.

He claimed in two parliamentary constituencies in Luwero and Mpigi districts alone, over 100,000 people had died. The Kiboga sub-county of Mpigi district, he estimated, had registered over 50,000 violent deaths.

He then called on those influential members of the international community to use their leverage to bring about an improvement in conditions obtaining in Uganda.

The opposition leader said that in addition to those killed, over one million Ugandans had been displaced in the so-called Luwero Triangle and in the districts of Karamoja, Mbarara and West Nile.

Describing the absurdity of answering violence with violence, Mr Semogerere dismissed the idea of a military solution to Uganda's current problems. Saying there was an unprecedented hatred and bitterness in the country, he wondered what would happen to the losers if either the government or guerrillas emerged victorious.

CAMEROON

100 Reported Killed as Airliner Catches Fire on Runway

AB301235 Yaounde Domestic Service in French 1215 GMT 30 Aug 84

[Text] A dispatch just reaching us announces that a Boeing 737 of our national air transport company Cameroon Airlines caught fire this morning on the runway of the Douala International Airport as it was about to take off on a regular internal flight for (?Yaounde). [Words indistinct] according to the source, 100 passengers were killed in the accident.

On receiving the news, the head of state dispatched the minister of territorial administration to the scene of the accident to convey the condolences of the government to the bereaved families. An investigation commission has also been sent to Douala.

AFP: Explosion on Plane Responsible

AB301130 Paris AFP in English 1125 GMT 30 Aug 84

[Text] Yaounde, Aug 30 (AFP) — About 100 people were killed today when a Boeing 737 of the national carrier Cameroon Airlines exploded as it was preparing to take off from the airport at Douala, Cameroon's economic capital, according to informed sources here. Some 20 people survived, the sources said. The mystery blast occurred in one of the holds of the aircraft, which was scheduled to fly to Yaounde.

Yaounde Reports 2 Dead

AB301415 Yaounde Domestic Service in English 1400 GMT 30 Aug 84

[Text] A Cameroon Airlines Boeing 737 craft caught fire this morning on the runway of the Douala International Airport killing 2 of the 116 persons aboard. The plane was shortly to take off on a regular flight for Yaounde, Garoua, and [word indistinct] when the tragic incident occurred. According to a communique from the Presidency of the Republic, the minister of territorial administration has been sent to the scene of the tragedy. A commission of inquiry has also been set up to investigate the cause. Meanwhile, President Paul Biya has sent messages of condolence to the bereaved families.

Further on Report

AB301325 Paris AFP in English 1315 GMT 30 Aug 84

[Excerpts] Douala, Cameroon, Aug 30 (AFP) — Two people — and not around 100 as had earlier been announced — died today when a Boeing 737 passenger plane of the national Cameroon airlines company caught fire on the runway at Douala airport, the national radio station said in the West African country. Radio Cameroon said the accident occurred when one of the plane's engines caught fire as it was about to move onto the runway to take off on a flight to Yaounde. The flames spread under the plane's fuselage, which led to earlier mistaken reports that an explosion had taken place in the aircraft's luggage hold, a diplomatic source said here. The radio broadcast gave no indication of the possible number of injured in the accident.

Group Claims Responsibility

AB301330 Libreville Africa No. 1 in French 1230 GMT 30 Aug 84

[Excerpts] We have learned that a Boeing 737 of Cameroon Airlines exploded this morning at the Douala airport at 0900 just before take off for Yaounde. We just received a telephone call from the Cameroon Liberation Front. According to its leaders, it is a front that is against violence, and according to the spokesman of this front, the plane was to have exploded before embarkation of the passengers. The front claims it supports neither [former] President Ahidjo nor President Biya.

CHAD

Ndjamena Calls Al-Qadhdhafi Country's 'Lifelong Enemy'

AB291332 Ndjamena Domestic Service in French 1845 GMT 28 Aug 84

[Station commentary]

[Summary] "The pro-Libyan opposition has broken up." The various components of this opposition have just demonstrated to national and international opinion their inability to reach an agreement concerning the Libyan trusteeship. "After the masquerade in Ouagadougou where a group of persons denounced the Libyan trusteeship, invasion, and interference in Chad's internal affairs, it is now the turn of another component of the ghost-like Transitional National Union Government, the Revolutionary Democratic Council [CDR], to denounce the machinations of Goukouni Oueddei — the unwavering supporter of Libya — who, it seems, has formed a government which does not include Acheick Ibn Oumar, the leader of the CDR."

Beyond the quarrels within the opposition, one thing is quite clear: It is that all Chadians are becoming increasingly aware of the Libyan danger. "It must be emphasized that no real problem exists among the Chadians. There exists only a war imposed and sustained by our lifelong enemy, Al-Qadhdhafi."

Habre Receives Congolese Leader's Envoy

AB291333 Ndjamena Domestic Service in French 1845 GMT 28 Aug 84

[Text] President Hissein Habre received early this evening a Congolese envoy, Basile (Ekouele), who is the diplomatic adviser at the presidency of the People's Republic of Congo. The Congolese envoy, who was received at 1810 by the head of state — who was accompanied by Lassou Gouara, minister of foreign affairs and cooperation — confirmed to (Noumala Guetta) that his visit to Chad concerned the possibility of holding a Chadian reconciliation conference in Brazzaville. [passage indistinct]

Habre Leaves for Pilgrimage to Saudi Arabia

AB291132 Paris AFP in French 0957 GMT 29 Aug 84

[Text] Ndjamena, 29 Aug (AFP) — The Chadian head of state, Hissein Habre, left Ndjamena on Tuesday morning for Saudi Arabia to perform the annual pilgrimage to Mecca, it was learned officially in the Chadian capital. Mr Habre is accompanied by his wife and an important delegation including Taher Guinassou, minister of animal husbandry, Taher Abdeldjelil, minister for natural calamities, and the mayor of Ndjamena, Mahamat Giber.

Information Minister on Changes in Opposition

AB300955 Ndjamena Domestic Service in French 1845 GMT 29 Aug 84

[Text] Giving the government's reaction to the situation within the opposition, the minister delegate to the presidency in charge of information has expressed the view that what is going on now within the opposition in general shows a shift in the balance of power and a sudden awareness of the danger Libya poses to Chad.

Mr Soumaila said: This development is important because it is tantamount to unequivocal condemnation of Libya's policy on Chad. He went on to say: This is also important because the opposition, which has for a long time disregarded the Libyan danger, is somewhat obliged to admit that Libya poses a true threat to Chad. Lastly, it is important because the move corresponds with the fears which the Chadian Government has always expressed about Libya's foreign policy. In conclusion, the minister of information said: It is a further confirmation that our cause is just and that the views which the patriotic forces have held for over a decade are right. But words alone are not enough to confront the Libyan danger. All the developments currently taking place within the opposition are a step forward in the search for a solution to the Chadian problem. However, only the future will clearly determine the significance of this development.

While waiting for the opposition to break up, or at least for it to see reason and really become aware of the danger Libya poses to our country, the Government of the Third Republic continues to win the trust and support of the Chadian people and of brotherly and friendly governments. In this connection, Egypt and Cameroon have upheld their support for the government under Mr Habre in a joint communique published in Cairo today at the end of a 6-day visit which Cameroonian Minister Delegate to the Foreign Minister Mahamat Paba Sale has just made to Egypt. The two countries say they are determined to contribute to the success of the conference on national reconciliation in Chad scheduled to take place in Brazzaville.

Further on Minister's Comments

AB292015 Paris AFP in French 1013 GMT 29 Aug 84

[Text] Ndjamena, 29 Aug (AFP) — Chadian Information Minister Mahamat Soumaila described as a "significant event" the defection of Acheikh ibn Oumar, general secretary of the Revolutionary Democratic Council (CDR), from the Transitional National Union Government (GUNT) of former President Goukouni Oueddei.

In an interview granted to the CHADIAN PRESS AGENCY (ATP), the minister was of the opinion that the position of the leader of the CDR, a major component of the GUNT, showed a change in the balance of power and a sudden awareness of the Libyan danger facing Chad.

Meanwhile, Mr Soumaila added: "Words alone are not enough to face the Libyan danger" and "the concrete act would be the recognition of the Libyan danger as a major one." In his understanding, to face this danger, it is necessary to help the Chadian Government.

The information minister said that the defection of Acheikh ibn Oumar from the GUNT constituted a step forward in the efforts toward a solution to the Chadian problem but pointed out that "only the future would show the significance of Oumar's act."

The Chadian minister did not exclude a possible dialogue with the various movements opposed to the GUNT to achieve national reconciliation: "Even though they are simple political malcontents, when the opportunity occurs, we will contact them." "We have never refused to contact Chadians and this policy will be pursued," he added.

"If this increased creation of factions (within the opposition) means a real sudden awareness, it can become a positive factor" in the efforts to achieve peace, Mr Soumaila concluded.

CAC Calls on 'Militants' To Break With GUNT

AB291720 Paris AFP in French 1115 GMT 29 Aug 84

[Text] Paris, 29 Aug (AFP) — The Coordination and Action Committee [CAC] of the Revolutionary Democratic Council [CDR] on Wednesday in Paris made an appeal to the "deceived and misled" militants of the movement to break away from the Transitional National Union Government [GUNT], which it described as "a body without any future and a complete vassal to Libya." In a statement to AFP, the CAC, which was created recently in Paris by seven leading members of the CDR, (one of the major groups making up the GUNT, an armed opposition to President Hissein Habre), "takes it upon itself" notably "to make Rakhis Manani (new defense minister of the GUNT) and his acolytes see reason."

The CAC considers the statements by Acheikh ibn Oumar, secretary general of the CDR, "hasty and contradictory" pronouncements which "only partially respond to our preoccupations." Relieved of his duties as defense minister of the GUNT, Acheikh ibn Oumar broke away from Goukouni Oueddei. Upon its creation on 24 August, the CAC denounced the "adventurism" of the GUNT and the Libyan "intrigues" in Chad, and it invited Acheikh ibn Oumar to assume his responsibility.

GHANA

Anti-Smuggling Operations To Begin at Burkina Border

AB291135 Accra Domestic Service in English 0600 GMT 29 Aug 84

[Text] The Wa district secretary, Mr Seidu Braima, has appealed to nationals of both Ghana and Burkina Faso not to take advantage of the recent agreements between the two countries to smuggle goods. Mr Braima was addressing cadres of the (?Kanio) zone in the Upper-West Region. He urged the PDCs [People's Defense Committees] and their counterparts in Burkina Faso to help implement the agreements on joint anti-smuggling operations on their common borders for the benefit of both countries. He also charged the PDCs, police, border guards, and other security agencies in the border areas to be more vigilant.

Meanwhile, heads of cattle numbering 100 from Burkina Faso have arrived in the country and are under quarantine at Paga. This is the first consignment under a special arrangement which allows Burkina Faso to sell to Ghana 400 heads of cattle. In another development, 250 heads of cattle, which have been brought into the country illegally, have been refused entry at Paga. The dealers are said to have no documents covering the animals.

Accra Compares Ivorian Experience, Country's Tasks

AB292000 Accra Domestic Service in English 1800 GMT 29 Aug 84

[Commentary by Humphrey Nyame]

[Text] On Sunday, 19 August, the Politburo of the ruling party of the Ivory Coast announced new economic measures aimed at relieving the economy of the stress and strain it has continued to bear after 24 years of independence. The main objective of the measures was to curb the privileges of the middle class so as to make savings for further economic development.

Among the measures announced were: 1) a cutback on the number of foreign aid workers; 2) abolition of rent-free accomodation for many categories of civil servants; 3) a reduction in the number of managerial positions in ministerial sectors; 4) a decrease in the pool of official vehicles. Other measures include higher prices for certain types of goods and services, limiting state scholarships to deserving students from poorer families.

The Ivory Coast has invested heavily in agriculture: in cocoa, coffee, coconut, and oil palm plantations and, as a national investment policy, large-scale holdings instead of small-scale individual holding were favored. As a result, the Ivory Coast has moved to first position in the production of cocoa. Similarly, infrastructural projects undertaken have put that country ahead of her neighbors: roads that open up the country, dams for power generation to support the industries, oil refineries to support the crude oil resources, sugar cane plantations to feed the refineries, and an accelerated program for higher education tailored to the requirements of the country. These projects have now reached the stage of a possible takeoff and, as a lot of foreign debts were incurred in the process of bringing them about, which have to be repaid, the government has to adopt such measures that will ensure economy in the managament of resources in order to avoid further borrowing.

It is true that the Ghanaian economy has been under severe strain like all developing countries with a colonial past. The process of reversing these situations cannot be without a sacrifice. That is why when the Ivory Coast is determined to toe the hard line, she deserves our congratulations.

The PNDC [Provisional National Defense Council] recovery program has already taken such hard decisions and recently it came out with the revision of the conditions of service for our foreign service staff. In Ghana's own situation, rent-free accomodation and the privilege of using official vehicles for private purposes were just a few of the rights reserved for the colonial masters, but, surprisingly, after 27 years of independence these privileges still remain with us with more serious consequences to the taxpayer. The resistance to change in this area has denied the government of the benefit to the state.

Again, after 2 years of our revolution, our universities should have been in a position to introduce a program of directing prospective university students into selective courses that are very crucial and relevant to the achievement of the aims of the revolution. As emphasis is now on agriculture and food production by manipulation of the incentives and programs as the Ivory Coast now embarks upon, many students with a science bias could be won into studies in agriculture to support and manage the government's programs of increased food and raw mateirial production in the next decade.

In the light of the Ivory Coast experience, we must continue to generate debate among the people so as to identify more areas of economic mismanagement and lack of judicious allocation of our scarce resources so that we can meet tomorrow's needs without fear. In addition, if our policies are unrealistic and erratic, we cannot find other countries adopting the same measures with enthusiasm.

IVORY COAST

Briefs

New Envoy From Japan — The new Japanese ambassador to Ivory Coast, Katsuhiro Ishioko, yesterday presented copies of his letters of credence to Simeon Ake, minister of foreign affairs. Mr Ishioko, who replaces Yoshikazu Sugitani, praised the excellent relations existing between Ivory Coast and Japan. [Excerpt] [*Abidjan FRATERNITE MATIN in French 29 Aug 84 p 3 AB*]

LIBERIA

New INA Speaker Named; Doe on Podier Arrest

AB291930 Monrovia Domestic Service in English 1900 GMT 29 Aug 84

[Text] Brigadier General Abraham D. Kollie has been appointed acting speaker of the Interim National Assembly [INA]. The head of state, Commander in Chief [CIC] Dr Samuel Kanyon Doe, introduced the new acting speaker to members of the INA during a meeting at the capitol building.

During today's meeting, Dr Doe also informed the Interim Assembly of the arrest of Major General J. Nicholas Podier and the letter sent to him by the Liberian Council of Churches. According to an Executive Mansion press release, Dr Doe told the assembly that he endorsed the arrest of Speaker Podier because it will afford him the opportunity to exonerate himself of the charges levelled against him. Dr Doe said he has no personal matters against Gen Podier but said it was a matter of fair play for him to be arrested along with others involved in the alleged coup plot.

Commenting on the letter from the Liberian Council of Churches, the Liberian leader said mimeograph copies of the letter to him were already in circulation before he received the letter on Sunday while it was being read during one of the regular church broadcasts on radio. Dr Doe, however, presented the letter to the assembly members for their timely consideration.

INA Discusses Budget, Endorses Doe Civilian Rule Stand

AB292135 Monrovia Domestic Service in English 2100 GMT 29 Aug 84

[Text] The members of the Interim National Assembly [INA] today deliberated on a wide range of national issues including the budget. During the deliberations, the minister of planning and economic affairs, Emanuel Gardiner; the minister of finance, Alvin Jones; the governor of the National Bank of Liberia, Thomas Hanson; and the director of the budget, Thomas Sherman, appeared before the assembly with their deputies to clarify points on the status of the budget.

Following today's assembly session, which lasted about 6 hours, INA Secretary General J. Patrick Biddle announced that the members of the assembly had unanimously endorsed the position of INA president and head of state Commander in Chief Dr Samuel Kanyon Doe that the process of returning Liberia to democratic civilian rule will continue in accordance with the approved timetable. Secretary General Biddle said the assembly was now looking forward to receiving the fullest cooperation of every Liberian in the realization of this noble goal.

Today's session, briefly attended by members [as heard], by the assembly president and head of state, Dr Doe, was presided over by INA Vice President Dr Harry Moniba, assisted by acting Speaker Brigadier General Abraham Kollie.

Meanwhile, acting Speaker Kollie announced that officers of the Liberian Council of Churches are invited to tomorrow's session of the assembly at the capitol building to exchange views on pertinent national issues.

Western Envoys Seek 'Clarifications' From Ministry

AB291950 Monrovia Domestic Service in English 1900 GMT 29 Aug 84

[Text] The Ministry of Foreign Affairs has announced that four Western diplomats accredited near here have called at the ministry to express their concern about the current political situation in the country. According to a Foreign Ministry release issued in Monrovia today, the envoys said in view of rumors circulating in the country, they would like to seek clarifications to enable them to report properly to their respective government.

The release named the ambassadors as those of the United States, France, as well as the charge d'affaires of Britain and West Germany. They said they were seeking these clarifications as friends of Liberia in view of what the government has achieved in the process of returning the country to democratic rule and efforts made toward its economic development. According to the release, the diplomats said, because their nationals teach at the University of Liberia, they desired information on when the institution will be reopened and what the status of their nationals and foreign students at the university will be at this time.

According to the release, acting Foreign Minister Christopher Minikon, who had an audience with the diplomats, recounted the official reports following the head of state's address to the Interim National Assembly and the dispersion of the students from the campus. Minister Minikon said in that report, three students who received wounds from stray bullets had already been treated while 72 others who were injured during the rush off campus were treated and discharged from various hospitals and clinics in Monrovia. The acting foreign minister assured the diplomats that he would inform them on the status of foreign students and instructors at the university when the proper authorities have been consulted.

Meeting Confirmed

AB291625 Monrovia Radio ELWA in English 1600 GMT 29 Aug 84

[Text] A Foreign Ministry source in the capital has confirmed a report broadcast today on the BBC that Western diplomats accredited to Liberia yesterday visited the Foreign Ministry to seek further information about current developments in the country. The source said that the public will be informed soon on the nature of the meeting with the diplomats.

A BBC report this morning quoted one of the diplomats speaking of a climate of fear in the country after the arrest of leading personalities, allegations of coup plots, and violence at the University of Liberia. The BBC West African correspondent said while it is not known exactly what was discussed, the diplomats' move is a clear indication of the West's concern about the situation in the country.

Ministerial Committee on University Affairs Established
AB291642 Monrovia Radio ELWA in English 1600 GMT 29 Aug 84

[Text] Four ministers have been appointed on a committee on the University of Liberia affairs by the head of state and president of the Interim National Assembly, Commander in Chief Samuel Kanyon Doe. The ministers appointed are the minister of finance, chairman; the minister of education; the minister of state for presidential affairs; and the minister of health and social welfare.

An Executive Mansion release issued today and signed by the minister of state, Dr J. Bonah Blamo, said the term of reference of the committee would include keeping the vital services of the university running to take care of contractual employees of the university and to take care of the University of Liberia's staff training students abroad. The term of reference of the newly-formed committee will also include the care of other employees of the university who have not been dismissed, the care of the relationship of the university with John F. Kennedy Medical Center, as well as the medical students and medical instructors of John F. Kennedy Medical Center. The committee is to also take care of the university's national and international relationships and to advise the head of state on university affairs. The Executive Mansion release said only ministers should serve on this committee. It said a deputy minister could deputize for him. The release quotes the head of state as directing all members of the committee to meet almost immediately, adding experts could be invited to give information to facilitate the committee's work.

NIGERIA

Buhari Holds Talks With Togo's Eyadema
AB290942 Lagos NAN in English 0810 GMT 29 Aug 84

[Text] Lagos, Aug. 28 (NAN) — The Togolese Government has closed down a bank found to be illegally dealing in the naira, the president, General Gnassingbe Eyadema, said in Lagos today.

Speaking at the start of talks between Nigeria and Togo, at Dodan Barracks, Gen Eyadema said that the Togolese Government shared the concern of the Federal Military Government in stopping trafficking of the Nigerian currency. "Nigeria and Togo have always been good neighbours and we want this relationship to grow, that is why we feel at home here in Nigeria," he said.

Earlier, the head of state, Maj Gen Muhammadu Buhari, stressed the need for Nigeria and its neighbours to tackle the question of security on the West African sub-region because criminals and saboteurs had taken advantage of the ECOWAS protocol on free movement to engage in smuggling and currency trafficking. "It is my view that this nefarious development should be nipped in the bud before it attains uncontrollable dimensions," he said. He referred to the recent meeting in Lome involving Nigeria, Benin, Togo and Ghana on security and remarked, "I am confident that the follow-up action on the part of all the states concerned will produce the desired results." Maj Gen Buhari said developing countries should "close ranks and work together" for their economic survival.

The head of state is being accompanied to the talks by the chief of staff, Supreme Headquarters, Brigadier Tunde Idiagbon, and six ministers while President Eyadema is leading a 14-man team.

Communique Issued, Eyadema Departs
AB291345 Lagos NAN in English 1227 GMT 29 Aug 84

[Text] Lagos, Aug 29 (NAN) — Nigeria and Togo today in Lagos agreed to revive their 1980 trade agreement in order to expand the existing economic cooperation between them.

A communique issued at the end of a two-day visit by the Togolese president, General Gnassingbe Eyadema, said that Nigeria would provide the standard draft text of the economic, scientific, technical and cultural agreement for study with a view to achieving greater cooperation between them. They also agreed to increase the frequency of contact between officials of both governments. According to the communique, Nigeria was pleased with the closure of a Togolese bank known to be involved in trafficking in the naira. It said that the heads of state of Nigeria and Togo discussed the question of expulsion of illegal immigrants and the closure of borders and that the Federal Military Government undertook to give an urgent and very careful consideration to the representations made by President Eyadema.

Both leaders, the communique said, reviewed the progress made by the ECOWAS but expressed regret that not much had been achieved. They, therefore, reiterated their commitment to the goals of the community and called on its member states to implement relevant protocols and demonstrate more commitment to the sub-regional body to ensure its survival.

The heads of state pledged to ensure the survival of the OAU and also appealed to member states to ensure the success of the organization. The two leaders expressed their support for and solidarity with the people of Western Sahara but stressed that it was imperative to renew efforts to seek ways of implementing the OAU resolution for a referendum and direct negotiation between Morocco and the Polisario, and (?appealed) to the OAU chariman to reconvene a meeting of the implementation committee.

The communique called for the withdrawal of foreign troops from Chad and appealed to Chadian leaders to end all forms of hostility in the interest of their people. On South Africa, they said that they hoped that the agreement entered into by some states in southern Africa with the apartheid regime would not hamper the liberation struggle which had reached a critical stage in that part of Africa.

Maj Gen Buhari has accepted an invitation by President Eyadema to visit Togo.

President Eyadema left today for home. He was seen off at Murtala Muhammed Airport by Maj Gen Buhari; the chief of staff, Supreme Headquarters, Brig Tunde Idiagbon; service chiefs; and top government functionaries.

Minister on Foreign Agricultural Investment, Debt

AB300920 Lagos NAN in English 0900 GMT 30 Aug 84

[Text] Lagos, Aug. 29 (NAN) — A proposal to amend the Nigerian Enterprises Promotion Decree is being considered by the Federal Military Government, Group Capt Emeka Omeroah, minister of information, youth, sports and culture, said today in Lagos.

The minister told media executives that the amendment was to enable foreigners who wished to invest in agriculture to own up to 80 per cent of large farm projects. The measure, he added, would also enable Nigerians to benefit from the experience of foreigners who "have been long in the business of mechanised farming"

Group Capt Omeroah said that the government would soon evolve a plan to motivate small-scale traditional farmers by giving them easier access to credit.

The minister said that the government had mandated river basin and rural development authorities to undertake the development of irrigation schemes for the benefit of farmers.

He said that the government had taken delivery of a 22.86-metre fishing trawler, and added that efforts were being made to speed up the realisation of the fishery terminal projects in the country.

Group Capt Omeroah disclosed that the country's uninsured creditors had accepted proposals put forward by the central bank to re-finance some of Nigeria's foreign debts. He expressed satisfaction with the British treasury and the Export Credit Guarantee Department for being "most sympathetic and cooperative" in finding a solution to the re-financing of their portions of Nigeria's trade arrears.

In the budget speech on May 7, the head of state, Maj-Gen Muhammadu Buhari, said that the government would consider a proposal to amend the Nigerian Enterprises Promotion Decree to enable non-Nigerians to own up to 80 per cent in large farm projects.

Wife of Former Governor Given 21-Year Term

AB291855 Lagos NAN in English 1800 GMT 29 Aug 84

[Text] Enugu, Aug 29 (NAN) — Victoria Mbakwe, wife of the former Imo governor, was today convicted on eight of the nine-count charge of corrupt practices and unlawful enrichment preferred against her at the Enugu Zone of the Special Military Tribunal on the Recovery of Public Property. She was sentenced to 21 calendar years and 21 days' imprisonment on each of the first two counts, for illegally collecting huge sums of money as donations under false pretences that Lavam Children's Centre Project, for which she collected the money, was a public charitable organisation. She was also sentenced to 21 years imprisonment on each of the remaining counts, except count eight, where the tribunal disagreed with the prosecution that Victoria engaged in corrupt practices by lodging about 8,600 naira in a commercial bank at Aba in trust for one of her sons. The sentences are to run concurrently.

The chairman of the tribunal, Air Commodore Muktar Mohammed, said that Victoria would, in addition, forefeit to the Federal Government, the 1,354,459.05 naira donations she illegally collected for the Lavam project. He said that the amount would be subject to deductions based on assessment of work done at the site of the project. Victoria Mbakwe is also to forefeit other sums of money totaling more than 2 million naira.

Air Commodore Mohammed said that the entire Lavam project affair was riddled with corruption from the time when the gubernatorial weight in Imo was brought to bear on what was a purely private commercial venture. He said that no word could be too strong in condemning the fradulent attitude of Victoria who, he said, also fooled the defunct Federal Government into donating to the venture by pretending that the project was a charitable organization.

TOGO

President Eyadema Returns From Visit to Nigeria

AB300815 Lome Domestic Service in French 0615 GMT 30 Aug 84

[Excerpt] The president of the Republic, General Gnassingbe Eyadema, returned to Lome late yesterday afternoon at the end of a 2-day official visit to Nigeria.

ANGOLA

Angola, U.S. Diplomatic Ties Expected Soon

LD300841 Lisbon Domestic Service in Portuguese 2230 GMT 29 Aug 84

[Text] Luanda and Washington are expected to establish diplomatic relations in a more or less short period of time, diplomatic sources in the Cape Verdean capital of Praia told the Portuguese news agency ANOP. Today in Praia talks were held between U.S. Assistant Secretary of State for African Affairs Chester Crocker and Cape Verdean Foreign Minister Silvino da Luz.

Representatives of the Angolan Government were also present at the talks. Sources in the Cape Verdean Foreign Ministry have said that there are now new prospects for a settlement of the Namibian issue, opened by Crocker's visit to Praia.

Official Holds Press Conference in Moscow

MB291944 Luanda Domestic Service in Portuguese 1200 GMT 29 Aug 84

[Text] The deputy minister of foreign relations today declared in Moscow that the situation in Southern Africa is at a dead end due to South Africa's refusal to withdraw its troops from the portion of Angolan territory that it occupies. This fact, Venancio de Moura stressed, contravenes the compromises agreed upon in Lusaka in February 1984.

Commenting on statements made by South African authorities who allude to SWAPO operations which start on Angolan territory, Vanancio de Moura stated that Pretoria lies. The Namibian resistence movement, SWAPO, acts inside of Namibia itself with the support of the people as a whole, he said.

Venancio de Moura criticized all Western countries, which feign a certain interest in the solution of the Namibian problem, but nevertheless continue to give full support to the South African racist authorities.

Comrade Venancio de Moura explained with clarity that the solution to the Namibian question will necessarily depend on the implementation of UN Security Council Resolution 435 without the introduction of any elements foreign to it.

The deputy minister of external relations stressed that Angolan and Soviet points of view with regard to the situation in Southern Africa coincide fully. Relations between Angola and the USSR, he said, are outside of the framework of normal intergovernmental relations. They are relations of a specific nature, motivated by the ideological option of two states. They are relations of allies who jointly fight against imperialism. Venancio de Moura was speaking at a press conference.

The Angolan official has been in the USSR for several days. He was received by his Soviet counterpart, Ilichev. Issues related to the 39th UN General Assembly which should take place in New York in December were discussed during the talks. Southern African issues were also reviewed.

90 UNITA Members Killed in Huambo, Cuanza Sul

MB300938 Lusanda Domestic Service in Portuguese 1900 GMT 29 Aug 84

[Text] News which has reached us from the Provinces of Huambo and Cuanza Sul notes that 90 UNITA criminals were killed by the national defense and security forces between 9 and 14 August. According to military sources contacted by ANGOP, the Angolan combatants annihilated 84 counterrevolutionaries in Cuanza Sul Province during that period while 6 bandits were annihilated in Huambo Province.

In Bie, two UNITA members have recently handed themselves over to the authorities of (?Cuemba) municipality. The main reasons given by (Bonifacio Henriques), first lieutenant, and (Antonio Fernandes), UNITA officer candidate, were famine, illness, lack of medical assistance and of clothes, and their desperate situation caused by the strong offensive carried out by the People's Armed Forces for the Liberation of Angola [FAPLA] against the counterrevolutionary groups.

The two UNITA elements disclosed that demoralization reigns among the puppet troops. Many UNITA military men want to hand themselves over to FAPLA, but are scared because their leaders say that the FAPLA kill all those who desert, the two former UNITA military men said.

According to their declarations, they received military training in the Jamba border area. The military training was given by South African military men and UNITA officers trained in South Africa.

UNITA Issues Communique on 11-14 Aug Action

MB271506 (Clandestine) Voice of the Resistance of the Black Cockerel in Portuguese to Angola 0430 GMT 27 Aug 84

[Communique issued in Jamba on 15 August by Brigadier Amos Demostenes Chilingutila, chief of General Staff of the Armed Forces for the Liberation of Angola [FALA] for the period 11-14 August]

[Text] In continuing the stepping-up of attacks in all Angolan provinces and in particular on the northern front, our armed forces have launched military operations against the forces of the Luanda Government and against other foreign military units. Among these operations we stress the following ones:

Cabinda Province: On 12 August, our forces, including a platoon of special comandos led by the people, left the Lindo position where they were concentrated and attacked the Cuban and People's Armed Forces for the Liberation of Angola [FAPLA] soldiers who were guarding the Cabinda airport. We killed 7 Cuban and 15 FAPLA soldiers. We captured 8 AK-47 weapons and 10 ammunition boxes. Our forces withdrew without any problems.

Luanda Province: On 13 August, our forces who are operating inside Luanda city, attacked several enemy positions in the Cazenga and (Bote) residential sections, and this led to the destruction of a power station.

Moxico Province: On 14 August, at 1230 our forces, using an antiaircraft battery with 14.5mm and 23mm guns, shot down a MI-24 helicopter operating in the areas southeast of Munhango, which caused its complete destruction. On the same day, a MiG-21 plane,piloted by a Cuban adviser, (Vilardel de Castro), was also shot down when it was trying to locate the helicopter which had been shot down earlier. The MiG was completely destroyed and the pilot was killed in the resulting crash. On 13 August, a batallion of our forces took by assault the enemy position of (Lago-Dilolo), cutting in pieces the 67th Brigade of Light Infantry which was stationed there. The enemy left many dead on the ground, and we captured a FAPLA mine expert named Pedro Gomes. We also burned 12 Ural and Star vehicles.

Benguela Province: On 13 August, at 1630 we captured the enemy position of Cuma located along the Benguela railroad between Longonji and Ganda. The exchange of fire lasted 30 minutes. We killed 27 FAPLA and 15 People's Defense Organization soldiers and released 1,290 civilians who were there under the yoke of the MPLA warlords. We captured 33 AK weapons, 3 60-mm mortars, 4 RPG-7's, one machine gun, and different caliber ammunition.

Lunda Province: On 12 August, at 0600 our forces took the enemy position of Cuangula located 58 km south of the border with Zaire. We killed 32 FAPLA soldiers who were guarding the border. Our forces captured 50 automatic weapons, 2 82-mm mortars, a [number indistinct] trade communications radio and a diamond trafficker who had some diamonds in his possession. During this period, the enemy suffered 98 FAPLA soldiers killed, 18 Cuban soldiers killed, and 6 FAPLA soldiers captured. Some 115 different weapons were captured, 21 vehicles were destroyed, 1 MiG was shot down, and 1 MI-24 helicopter was also shot down. UNITA suffered 12 dead soldiers and 25 injured soldiers. Jamba, 15 August, the year of the anti-Cuban patriotic front.

[signed] Brigadier Amos Demostenes Chilingutila, chief of the FALA General Staff.

Angolan President Postpones Visit to Spain

LD291334 Lisbon International Service in Portuguese 1215 GMT 29 Aug 84

[Text] Angolan President Jose Eduardo dos Santos has postponed his visit to Spain [which was to take place early September], due to difficulties in his schedule. Spanish sources contacted in this connection remarked that the relations between Madrid and Luanda are excellent in the economic, trade, and political fields.

Dos Santos Receives Departing Ambassadors

MB291617 Luanda Domestic Service in Portuguese 0500 GMT 29 Aug 84

[Text] The Angolan head of state received in Futungo de Belas yesterday Mr Nur ad-Din Habri, Algerian ambassador; Jean Galabru, French ambassador; and G.O. George, Nigerian ambassador. In the audiences, the three diplomats said farewell to President Jose Eduardo dos Santos on the occasion of the end of their diplomatic tour of duty.

LESOTHO

UDP Head Asks Zambian, Ivorian Aid in RSA Dispute

MB291402 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1342 GMT 29 Aug 84

[Text] Maseru, Aug 29, SAPA — The leader of Lesotho's United Democratic Party [UDP], Mr Charles Mofeli, has appealed to President Kenneth Kaunda of Zambia and President Felix Houphouet-Boigny of the Ivory Coast to mediate between Lesotho and South Africa to help resolve the crisis in relations between the two countries. In a statement issued in Maseru today, Mr Mofeli said such mediation should be held with a view to the staging of talks between the prime ministers of Lesotho and South Africa. Mr Mofeli said: "Nobody should underrate the importance of the proposed talks and their urgency in the wake of the exchange of unfriendly remarks hurled against each other by the two neighbors in the past few days."

South Africa has warned that it is considering its participation with Lesotho in the massive Lesotho Highland Water Project and is also thinking of applying stricter border controls with Lesotho and imposing other measures if the Lesotho Government does not engage in dialogue over a security pact between the two countries.

Lesotho has reacted by blaming South Africa for unfriendly neighborliness and attempting to force the country to sign a non-aggression pact along the lines of the Nkomati Accord between South Africa and Mozambique.

Mr Mofeli said it was in the interests of both Lesotho and South Africa to invite diplomatic intervention by countries best equipped for the task, and refrain from using radio broadcasts to "fan the flames of hostility." The intermittent eruption of hostilities between Lesotho and South Africa proved that intervention was badly needed in the dispute between the two countries, he said.

Commentary Decries RSA Embargo on Arms Shipments

MB291624 Maseru Domestic Service in English 1130 GMT 29 Aug 84

[Station commentary]

[Text] It is one of the ironies of Lesotho-South African relations that arms sanctions have become an instrument for resolution of divergent political perceptions. In parliament two weeks ago, the Right Honorable Dr Leabua Jonathan, in a memorable statement to the house, drew the attention of the nation to this remarkable development.

The prime minister informed the parliament that for the last 2 years, equipment consigned to the law enforcement machinery in Lesotho, spare parts for helicopters in the Lesotho Para-Military Force's fleet, and a new helicopter for transportation of foodstuffs to drought-stricken areas were being held at Jan Smuts and Durban by the South African authorities, and that all approaches by Lesotho to South Africa had borne no fruition.

There are two basic aspects to this whole matter which demand some exploration and examination. The first and most compelling consideration is defined by Lesotho's rights as a land-locked state under international law and in terms of bilateral international agreements.

The second aspect raises serious questions about South Africa's perceptions about the issue of sanctions as a diplomatic tool in the conduct of relations between and among members of the community of sovereign states.

This Kingdom, as an enclave in South Africa, has rights which are firmly based on principles of international law for transit corridors for the traffic of goods and passengers from and to Lesotho. In its consideration of the law of the sea, the United Nations has also been faced with codification of the rights of land-locked states.

The only threshold that is generally accepted on those rights is the security of coastal stages. The goods that are destined for Lesotho pose no security dangers for South Africa and as the right honorable prime minister has observed, it is ingenious to suggest that the helicopter, the spare parts, and small arms are consigned to imagined ANC bases in Lesotho, and not to the law enforcement machinery in this country.

It is also worthy of mention that Article 16 of the Southern African Customs Union specifically provides for the freedom of transit without discrimination of goods to and from Lesotho.

Apart from consideration of public morals, health, and commitment to other conventions, the only feeling on the freedom of transit entrenched in the agreement is security. This Kingdom and the Republic of South Africa are both contracting parties to the agreement.

As a coastal state, South Africa has clear and well-defined obligations in terms of the Southern African Customs Union not to interfere with Lesotho's transit corridors. The action that South Africa has taken over the past 2 years is contrary to the provisions of the agreement and principles of international law. The second aspect to this whole question is even more disturbing. South Africa is itself subject to an arms embargo. Increasingly, there have been international demands for the expansion of the embargo and imposition of economic sanctions against the Republic. Lesotho in the context of neighborly relations, and in its own interests, has consistently dissociated herself from any such demands. She has forcefully argued against sanctions on South Africa.

On its part, South Africa has also used Lesotho as a bargaining point against sanctions on the Republic of South Africa. Here then lies the irony. Now it is South Africa that is imposing an embargo in the interest of achieving dubious political objectives. South Africa is not only acting in violation of principles of international law and the Southern African Customs Union.

Lesotho's closest neighbor by her actions is undermining all efforts against international demands for imposition of sanctions against herself. These countries stand to suffer severe losses by this change of attitude by South Africa.

MOZAMBIQUE

Meeting Held With USSR Parliamentary Group

MB291033 Maputo Domestic Service in Portuguese 0800 GMT 29 Aug 84

[Text] In yesterday's round of talks between Mozambique and Soviet parliamentary delegations, the two parties concluded that the relations between the two countries and states are being promoted positively based on the treaty of friendship and cooperation signed in 1977.

The Mozambique side informed the Soviet parliamentarians of the main tasks that the Mozambican people have been undertaking since the convening of the Fourth Frelimo Party Congress, particularly the fight against the armed bandits. In turn, the Soviet delegation referred to the external and internal policies of the Soviet party and state. It also stressed the efforts of the Soviet people within the framework of the preparations for the 27th CPSU Congress.

NAMIBIA

2 Bombs Cause Little Damage to Railroad Bridge

MB300913 Johannesburg Domestic Service in English 0900 GMT 30 Aug 84

[Text] Two bombs exploded under a railway bridge near Swakopmund in South-West Africa yesterday evening. The commissioner of the Railways Police, Lieutenant Hannes Visagie, says the explosions, which were detonated within 10 minutes of each other, caused little damage. The Railways Police found a third bomb at the scene of the blasts and defused it. No one was hurn in the explosions and the bridge has been reopened to traffic.

SOUTH AFRICA

Government, Party Officials Comment on Elections

New Parliament Begins 4 August

MB271756 Johannesburg Domestic Service in English 1600 GMT 29 Aug 84

[Text] An extraordinary edition of the government *GAZETTE* has announced that parliament will be prorogued by the state president on Monday and that the new parliament will begin its first sitting on Tuesday. South Africa's new constitutional dispensation, which makes provision for a tricameral parliament for whites, Coloreds, and Indians, comes into effect on Monday.

Government to Continue Dispensation

MB291855 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1948 GMT 29 Aug 84

[Text] Bloemfontein, Aug 29 SAPA — The government would continue with the practical implementation of its new dispensation in spite of the relatively low percentage polls in the Colored

and Indian elections, the prime minister, Mr P.W. Botha, said in Bloemfontein tonight.

Mr Botha, who was addressing a public meeting at the conclusion of the Free State National Party congress, said that some people, with justification, felt polls were very low.

While not wanting to make excuses, cognisance had to be taken of the fact that there was intimidation, that positive steps were taken to undermine the voting, and that there were those who had an in-built reluctance to exercise their rights and many willing to dissuade them of exercising those rights.

Mr Botha said low percentage polls in themselves were nothing new. In many other countries with long democratic histories, polls also were low on occasions. He did not wish to write the low polls off as insignificant because he knew that those who had exercised their rights had acted responsibly, and deserved their views to be implemented. Mr Botha said he found it significant that in sharp contrast to the referendum in 1960 when the losers had thrown in their lot with the winners, the losers by a wide majority in last year's referendum appeared not as willing to accept the results and, in fact, were going out of their way to hamstring the implementation.

Mr Botha said his government would nevertheless tackle the difficult task ahead, not in a spirit of defeat, but would see the low polls as a minor obstacle on the road to the future. "I don't say that what we are entering into is perfect, nor is it the total solution to our problems. But I ask what is the alternative?"

Botha on Voting; Lesotho

MB300618 Johannesburg Domestic Service in English 0500 GMT 30 Aug 84

[Text] The prime minister, Mr P.W. Botha, says he does not regard the outcome of the Colored and Indian elections as a failure because of the low percentage polls. He says those who went to the polls acted responsibly so as to enable their leaders to have a say in the government.

Mr Botha was speaking at a public meeting to mark the conclusion of the Orange Free State National Party Congress in Bloemfontein. He said it should be taken into consideration that voters had been intimidated and that steps had been taken to undermine the polling. The prime minister said the low percentage poll was in itself not unusual. In many countries with a long history of democracy low percentage votes were experienced from time to time.

Mr Botha said the Government regarded the low polls merely as a minor obstacle and it would not tackle the difficult task that lay ahead in a spirit of defeat. He said the new dispensation, which was being entered into now, was not being regarded as perfect or as a total solution.

As far as he was concerned, however, there was no alternative. Mr Botha said a solution to the contitutional future of the nine million blacks outside the national and independent states would have to be found for the sake of justice and in the interests of future white generations.

Referring to Lesotho, Mr Botha said South Africa found it difficult to consider the development of the Highlands Water Project because of Lesotho's insensitivity to South Africa's security needs. South Africa had facts at its disposal which led it to believe that Lesotho was not willing to meet those needs. He said the Highlands project was vulnerable to subversive action.

The prime minister emphasized that South Africa wanted to live in peace with all the countries of Southern Africa on the basis on noninterference in one another's domestic affairs. South Africa was a regional power and as such the country would not put up with such interference.

Heunis on Low Turnout

MB300830 Johannesburg Domestic Service in English 1600 GMT 29 Aug 84

[Text] The minister of constitutional development and planning, Mr Chris Heunis, says that superficially the percentage poll in the House of Delegates election will be assessed as very low, and it will be argued that the legitimacy of the election and the House is in question. Mr Heunis said in an interview with the South African Broadcasting Corporation in Bloemfontein that he could not agree with such a view because there had been too many factors affecting the election.

He said that there had been a very real fear of intimidation among the Indian community, and that this had been born out by the fact that the community had already experienced acts of retribution by other groups. He said the fear of intimidation was also highlighted when taking into account the percentage of special votes cast in proportion to actual voting at polling stations.

Mr Heunis said it would be wrong and unscientific to judge the percentage poll against criteria for developed countries and peoples. The Indian community was a developing one, and as such showed a low poll, as was the case among other developing communities in the world.

UDF-TIC Issue Statement

MB291750 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1725 GMT 29 Aug 84

[Text] Johannesburg, Aug 29, SAPA — Only 15.5 percent of Indian adults voted in elections for the Indian House of Delegates, the Transvaal Indian Congress [TIC] and the United Democratic Front [UDF] said in a joint statement today. It said that one in three votes cast were special votes.

In a breakdown of registered voters and those who voted, the TIC said six out of seven Indian adults did not vote. The organisations said the number of Indian voters eligible to vote was 536,415 and 83,320 votes were cast in the election. Therefore, the analysis says, 453,095 Indians did not vote which is 15.5 percent of the Indian adult population.

Nearly 30 percent of the votes cast were special votes and only 15 percent of registered voters or 11.5 percent of eligible voters cast their votes on election day yesterday. The statement named Laudium and Actonville as places where exceptional numbers of special votes were cast. Two-thirds of the votes cast in Laudium were special votes and in Actonville 1,515 of the 2,553 votes cast were special votes.

"At present, affidavits are being collected of alleged malpractices surrounding the casting of special votes," the TIC/UDF statement said. "There have been widespread reports of intimidation of poor, illiterate voters as well as pensioners who have been threatened with loss of pensions or lured with false promises to vote," the statement added.

PFP: Vote Disproves Support

MB291531 Umtata Capital Radio in English
1300 GMT 29 Aug 84

[Text] The Progressive Federal Party [PFP] says the Indian and Colored elections made a mockery of claims that people supported the new constitution. PFP spokesperson on Indian affairs (Pierre Cronje):

[Begin recording] This is in fact no more than the referendum that never was. The fact is, of course, that it gives the lie to the National Party claims that the constitution was the result of consultation and consensus. The final irony of course — and that should give little comfort to the Government — is that even those people who did vote, voted for candidates' parties who have declared in no uncertain terms that they also do not accept the constitution. [end recording]

Radio Discusses Election Violence

MB300738 Johannesburg Domestic Service in English
0500 GMT 30 Aug 84

[Station commentary]

[Text] The events surrounding the Indian parliamentary elections contain a somber warning for the vast majority of South Africans, those for whom the democratic process is the only acceptable mold for the conduct of politics. The violence of the boycotting groups aimed both at voters and at the police as upholders of law and order was a direct assault on the democratic process.

Rough as its politics can be at times, South Africa has an honorable tradition of respecting the right of people to cast their votes unhindered on election day. There has always been a firm consensus among even the fiercest political opponents that to interfere in any way at all with that right is the most blatant negation of democracy. It is imperative for the future security and welfare of all in this country that that consensus must be maintained.

Those who are out to wreck it, and on Tuesday they gave an intimation of how far they would go in the campaign, must be dealt with severely. To tolerate their behavior at any level is to open a Pandora's box of anarchic forces directed not only against the state and its institutions but against the fundamental values on which civilized society is built.

The frivolous rationalizations of standard bearers for the boycott groups must be judged against the actions of those groups. On election day one newspaper headlined an editorial on measures taken by the authorities, "Overkill Against Valid Dissent", and alluded to smear tactics against the boycotters. There was certainly no element of valid dissent in the shots fired at policemen, the petrol bombs thrown at police and voters, the stoning of cars and buses traveling to polling booths, the reports of individual intimidation according to sworn statements, or the massing of boycott groups in streets to prevent the passing of voters, and the smearing of reputations was done by the boycotters themselves by their actions.

Violence is inherent in the strategy of the boycott groups. They are committed, as stated by Dr (Farouk Meer) of the Natal Indian Congress, an affiliate of the United Democratic Front, to achieving their political goals by extraparliamentary means. By definition that makes them confrontationist. Since their strategy must be to force political change through the pressures that can be exerted by organized bodies like trade unions and educational institutions. And obviously such confrontation contains the ever-present danger of violence, if not preplanned by those in control certainly predictable as a product of the emotionalism generated in the confrontation situation. When the strategy of confrontation and its accompanying violence is applied to the election process it is an assault on democracy. It represents an attempt to halt the evolutionary growth of democratic institutions and broadening of the base of political participation that is underway in South Africa. However much its sponsors may protest the contrary, it is essentially a revolutionary strategy. It must be dealt with as such.

Rev Jackson Advised RSA Visit 'Not Appropriate'

MB292017 Johannesburg Domestic Service in English
1700 GMT 9 Aug 84

[Text] The minister of internal affairs, Mr F.W. de Klerk, says the South African Government has so far received no application for a visa from the American civil rights leader, the Reverend Mr Jackson. Mr de Klerk was reacting to remarks by Mr Jackson that his application for a South African visa had been refused. Mr de Klerk said Mr Jackson's inquiry about a visa would be considered according to merit at a later stage, taking into account the prevailing situation. He said Mr Jackson had been advised that a visit to South Africa would not be appropriate this year.

Pik Botha Protests Netherlands 'Interference'

MB300942 Johannesburg Domestic Service in English
1700 GMT 29 Aug 84

[Text] The government has in its possession a document indicating Dutch Embassy interference in South African politics, and the minister of foreign affairs, Mr Pik Botha, has conveyed a strong protest to the Government of The Netherlands about the embassy's action. Mr Botha told the South African Broadcasting

Corporation, in reply to a query, that he had asked the representative concerned to inform his government that the South African government objected to some of the Dutch Embassy's activities.

According to press reports, the document, entitled "Bevordering van Veranderingsprosess in Zuid Afrika", is aimed at the distribution of information, especially among the Coloreds. The aim of the document is apparently to make people conscious of what it describes as injustices in the South African political system, and to identify organizations opposing the system. The document also deals with the channeling of financial aid to such organizations.

Botha Says Lesotho Will Not Meet Security Needs

MB292006 Johannesburg SAPA in English
2006 GMT 29 Aug 84

[Text] Bloemfontein, Aug 29, SAPA — South Africa found it difficult to consider the development of the Highland Water Project in Lesotho due to Lesotho's insensitivity to South Africa's security needs, the prime minister, Mr P.W. Botha, said tonight. He told a public meeting rounding off the Free State National Party's congress he had a particular announcement to make regarding relationships between Lesotho and South Africa.

South Africa had facts at its disposal which led it to believe that Lesotho was not willing to meet the security needs of the republic. The Highlands project was vulnerable to subversive action, Mr Botha said. Soon after he had become prime minister he had gone out of his way in the best traditions of his predecessors to try and normalise relationships with Lesotho. He had personally gone to the border and had long discussions with the prime minister, Chief Leabua Jonathan. The Free State agricultural union had added deed to the word and assisted in the harvesting of Lesotho crops.

"This was necessary because we know that thousands of Lesothos work in South Africa and there must be and exchange of goodwill which I personally did not want to harm. After that we considered the conservation of water in a joint venture. I can say that on South Africa's part there was a willingness to live a normalised existence which I believe was in our mutual interest.

"Numerous meetings between our foreign ministers took place and reached a point close to a suitable arrangement shortly before my departure for Europe. Both countries had expressed their security concerns and laid down principles in this regard. South Africa now has facts at its disposal which lead us to believe that Lesotho does not put these principles into practice." In view of Lesotho's failure to demonstrate its readiness to consider South Africa's security needs, South Africa found it difficult to consider the development of the Highlands project.

Botha Says Solution for Urban Blacks Needed

MB292011 Johannesburg SAPA in English
1942 GMT 29 Aug 84

[Text] Bloemfontein, Aug 29, SAPA — A solution to the constitutional future of South Africa's nine million urban blacks had to be found for the sake of justice in the country, the prime minister, Mr P.W. Botha, said tonight.

He told a packed Bloemfontein City Hall that such a solution had to be found for the sake of constitutional development in the country and because of the interests of white South African children.

Since the establishment of the Republic, democracy had been extended to the extent that 10 million people who had no franchise in 1910 now lived and voted for their own governments in independent or self-governing states.

"But we have to admit that there are nine million others outside those states because it is to their benefit...to seek work in our industries and on our farms. We do not say that they have no right to existence and that is why this Government has said it will, in consultation with the leaders of the black states and black cities, try to find a solution." Although there were hitches, "we know there is movement," Mr Botha said.

There would also have to be an eventual institutionalised grouping of Southern African states cooperating on matters of common concern. "But for the urban black we have to find a solution. We know that our children cannot live here in blood, but can only live here in pace. South Africa seeks peace with all the states of Southern Africa on the basis of non-interference."

South Africa was a recognised regional power and would not tolerate interference in its internal affairs. "They can do it from 6000 miles away, that's in order — but they must not come and do it here or there will be trouble," he warned. Reasonably powerful countries had better think carefully and keep their distance because "we know better when it comes to dealing with Southern Africa," the prime minister said.

ANC President Tambo Interviewed by ADN

LD281851 East Berlin ADN International Service in German 1356 GMT 28 Aug

[Text] Berlin, 28 Aug (ADN) — The African National Congress (ANC) and the popular masses of South Africa express great thanks to and respect for the GDR for its active solidarity in the struggle against apartheid, ANC President Oliver Tambo has said.

In an interview with ADN and GDR television he emphasized that the GDR had always identified itself with the struggle of the nations against colonialism, fascism, Zionism, apartheid, and racism. "If our struggle today is strong, then this is thanks to the steady support of the GDR, the Soviet Union, and the other socialist states."

In this connection the ANC president praised the friendly talk with Erich Honecker, SED Central Committee general secretary and chairman of the GDR State Council, and the award of the "Star of International Friendship" Order in gold to Nelson Mandela as a sign of this solidarity. The ANC considers the high award asrecognition of the struggle by Nelson Mandela for the liberation of the South African people and for peace in the world.

In answer to a question on the situation in his home country, Oliver Tambo said: "The apartheid regime has over the years been faced with an increasingly deep crisis — a political and economic crisis." This is primarily the result of the increasing willingness to fight by the South African working class, above all the black workers, of the increasingly effective actions of "Umkhonto We Sizwe," the armed wing of the ANC, and the increasingly strong international support in the struggle against apartheid.

In this situation, Pretoria is trying to counter the revolutionary actions of the working masses and international pressure with the help of so-called reforms. The so-called changes to the constitution are aimed at tightening the hold on the workers, at strengthening the white minority regime and splitting the opponents of apartheid.

On the election farce, orchestrated last week by Pretoria, for Coloreds, the ANC president said the result is a clear defeat for the regime and a great victory for the people who were active for the liberation of the country. The election maneuver had led to a strengthening of the resistance. "Our people demand the fall of the system and its replacement by a democratic, unified, nonracist South Africa which is governed according to the will of its people."

Dealing with Pretoria's policies toward the independent neighboring states in the region, Oliver Tambo emphasized that although South Africa speaks of peace and security it is at the same time attacking peaceful countries and undermining their security. In this manner the regime is continuing its known policies.

In answer to a question about the role of imperialism in Southern Africa, the ANC president said that the United States above all, has come to the help of the apartheid regime as never before. The present U.S. Administration has strengthened Pretoria and encouraged it to lead an undeclared war in Southern Africa. Thanks to the financial help by the transnational corporations, Pretoria is now able to use all its economic and military strength in order to hinder countries in the region in their support for the liberation struggle.

The ANC continues to work to organize the masses and mobilize them, to unite the members of all social strata, all races and all political views into a unified force, Oliver Tambo emphasized. In this connection he praised the formation of the United Democratic Front (UDF), made up of more than 600 workers, womens, students, and other organizations.

SWAZILAND

U.S. Ambassador Says Farewell to Swazi Officials

MB291931 Mbabane Domestic Service in English
1600 GMT 29 Aug 84

[Text] The United States Ambassador to Swaziland, Mr Robert Phinny, today called on the prime minister, Prince Bhekimpi, to bid him farewell at the end of his term of office in the Kingdom of Swaziland. During his call the outgoing United States ambassador said it was a blessing for him to have worked with the Swazi Government. Mr Phinny said the greatest disappointment for him during his term of office in Swaziland was that he never had a chance to work with the late King Sobhuza II, whom he considered the greatest statesman of all times. The outgoing United States ambassador said he intended to be Swaziland's ambassador to the private sector of the United States.

In reply, the Prime Minister Prince Bhekimpi told the outgoing United States envoy that it was easy to say welcome, but very tough to bid farewell to a brother like Mr Phinny. Prince Bhekimpi said Swaziland received all forms of financial assistance from the Government of the United States during Mr Phinny's term of office, adding that such an assistance was highly appreciated by the Swazi Government.

The prime minister also asked Mr Phinny to convey messages of goodwill to the President of the United States, Mr Ronald Reagan, from Her Majesty, the Queen Ntombi, and the entire Swazi nation. Mr Phinny leaves the country next week.

UNDP Resident Representative Presents Credentials

MB291948 Mbabane Domestic Service in English
1600 GMT 29 Aug 84

[Text] The new UN resident representative, Mr C.P.C. (Metcalfe), today presented the prime minister, Prince Bhekimpi, with his letters of appointment to the Kingdom of Swaziland at Cabinet offices.

Handing over his letter the UN Development Program, UNDP, resident representative said he is privileged to have been given the post and said he hoped to do his best. Mr (Metcalfe) told the prime minister that the policy of the UNDP is to assist the local government in whatever economic development it chooses.

He said his appointment also embraces the functions of the UNICEF and FAO. The new UNDP representative said he hoped to follow in the footsteps of his predecessors, after having met them in New York before coming to Swaziland. In reply, the prime minister said the UNDP office in Swaziland has helped the Kingdom in so many ways in the past and expressed his hope that the office of the UNDP will continue to help Swaziland in her development.

Crown Prince Makhosetive Arrives From Britain

MB291758 Mbabane Domestic Service in English
1600 GMT 29 Aug 84

[Text] The Crown Prince Makhosetive arrived in the country this afternoon from Britain, where he is attending school. On arrival at Matsapha airport, Prince Makhosetive was met by members of the Supreme Council of State, Liqoqo, Prime Minister Prince Bhekimpi; princes and princesses; members of parliament, including Cabinet ministers; and members of the diplomatic corps. The national anthem was sung by the Umbutfo Royal Swaziland Defense Force. The prince inspected a guard of honor mounted by the Defense Force band. From Matsapha he was driven to Phondo Royal Residence.

Pik Botha To Visit Country, Present Gift

MB291916 Mbabane Television Service in Siswati
1630 GMT 29 Aug 84

[Text] This morning the prime minister informed the South African representatives, who had brought a royal gift in the form of an elephant, that the Swazis would continue to request from South Africa whatever they needed if not available in the country.

The prime minister was speaking to these gentlemen at Lobamba in the Lusaseni Royal residence, where he disclosed that tomorrow Mr Pik Botha, minister for foreign affairs in the South African Government, is expected in Swaziland to present this gift of wildlife to the elders.

When the truck bearing the gift arrived, the warriors in attendance assisted it and took it for safe keeping at the appointed place. Mr Hezekiel Sipho Mamba, minister of agriculture and cooperatives, and Mr T.V. Mtetwa, former commissioner of police, directed the operations of unloading the gift.

ZAMBIA

Kaunda Receives Nicaraguan Deputy Minister

MB291601 Lusaka Domestic Service in English
0500 GMT 29 Aug 84

[Text] President Kaunda has described Zambia's relations with Nicaragua as very close despite the distance between the two countries. Speaking when visiting deputy minister of foreign affairs Madam Nora Pastor called on him at State House. Dr Kaunda said Zambia and Nicaragua share the same goals and ideals. Dr Kaunda noted that forces of exploitation were busy sowing seeds of discontent and (?discouraging) progressive leaders for their own selfish aims [words indistinct].

He praised Nicaraguan President Daniel Ortega's revolutionary stand, saying although Zambia was a poor country, it would support the Nicaraguan revolution morally, spiritually, and diplomatically.

Speaking at a dinner hosted for her by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Madam Pastor said that there was no doubt that imperialist forces were out to destroy her country, but she said the people of Nicaragua were determined to overcome the onslaught.

She commended Zambia's assistance accorded to the Nicaraguan revolution and hoped this would continue. Her Zambian counterpart, Mr Otema Musuka, expressed Zambia's solidarity with Nicaragua and other Central American nations, saying the region should be left alone to determine its own destiny.

ZIMBABWE

'Arafat Ends Visit After Rally, Speeches

Mugabe Address at Rally

MB291806 Harare Domestic Service in English
0811 GMT 29 Aug 84

[Address by Prime Minister Robert Mugabe at Zimbabwe National Sports Center in Harare — live with line-by-line translation into Shona]

[Text] Comrade members of the Central Committee and the Politburo, [words indistinct] Yasir 'Arafat, and the delegation of the PLO, today for us in Zimbabwe is a great day when, for the first time, in this country we have been honored by the visit of the chairman of the PLO, Comrade Yasir 'Arafat. We welcome you most heartily to Zimbabwe, as the leader of this freedom movement, a movement fighting for freedom in Palestine. We welcome you as your friends, brothers and allies.

We have invited people mainly from the party to be present here from the party around Harare so they can welcome you in the same way as we have had occasion to welcome you upon your arrival and yesterday night when we hosted a dinner for you. We are happy that you are here, representing the PLO and the suffering people of Palestine. I wish to assure you of our continued solidarity with the oppressed people of Palestine. We assure you also that at all the fora, all the platforms that we have in the international sphere — whether it is at the United Nations, whether it is at the Nonaligned Conference, at the OAU — we shall always support the cause of the Palestinian people. We assure you also that in our party, ZANU, you have that maximum support you can ever expect to get. We give you whole heartedly our support for the liberation struggle you are waging.

In doing so, we are fully aware that the struggle you are waging is a bitter and protracted one. Liberation struggles are long and protracted. Ours was long and protracted. The Mozambican struggle was long and protracted. Similarly was the Angolan struggle long and protracted. The cause of all is justice, and the people of Palestine are determined in pursuance of that just cause to fight for their liberation [words indistinct].

Today is a day when our people will hear from you the problems that have confronted you since the displacement of your people by Israel, supported by Western imperialist powers. As our time is short, I will now want all of you to listen very attentively to the message that is going to come from Comrade Yasir 'Arafat. [Mugabe then speaks in Shona] Comrade Yasir 'Arafat, I have just described briefly how you got [words indistinct] and how the imperialist powers combined in 1947-48 to give a state to Israel and the Israelis, who were outside Palestine in various countries — West Germany, America, and so on — drifted back and

displaced the Palestinian people, and the Palestinian people have been rendered refugees in various countries — in Lebanon, in Jordan, Egypt, and many other Arab countries — and that the struggle you are waging is therefore for the recovering of your homeland. Against that background, may I now invite you to come and say a few words to the people here who would want to hear from you the nature of your struggle, the bitterness of your fight, the justice of your cause. As I say, we give you maximum support in the party, in government, and as a totality of the people of Zimbabwe. Your cause is our cause.

'Arafat Address at Rally

MB291657 Harare Domestic Service in English
0808 GMT 29 Aug 84

[PLO Leader Yasir 'Arafat's Address at the National Sports Center in Harare — live]

[Text] Comrades, the prime minister, my brothers, the same [word indistinct], the same struggle is [words indistinct]. I cannot truly explain my feelings exactly on being here in Harare after this very long heroic struggle [words indistinct] of your heroic people of Zimbabwe. [applause]

Some years ago it was very difficult for me myself, even for all the many other revolutionaries, to imagine that we can have this meeting here in Harare not only as an independent state but as freedom fighters supporting all the revolutionaries all over the world here in Harare. [applause] It is something touching the heart and the spirit.

Some years ago it was only an imagination, but now I am here among you. I am here in Harare, my comrade Brother Mugabe, among your people, among you, African freedom fighters, through your sacrifices, through the sweat of ZANU you can be able and you have this victory [word indistinct] [sentence as heard]. [applause]

I know because we are both of us suffering together from imperialism, colonialism, apartheid, racism. Our country was under the British mandate. Your country was under this imperialism, racism, apartheid. In 1947-48 they succeeded to create a state called Israel and 60 percent of our people have been kicked out from their homeland and are living now as refugees. We suffered from confiscation of land, building settlements, the same things you were suffering — confiscation of land, building settlements, and colonizing. But it is the spirit of your heroic struggle, my Brother Mugabe, with your freedom fighters, that brought your heroic, great people, great people of Zimbabwe, through this very tough, very difficult, struggle, and with this very difficult [word indistinct] you have been able to achieve your goals, your victory, and here we are in Harare and this is the first time [words indistinct] of the people of Zimbabwe. [applause]

My Brother Mugabe, for me it is the second time I have [word indistinct]. The first time when I visited (?Algeria). When I visited (?Algeria) directly after they had been able to achieve their goals and their victory, and when I visited again I had the same feeling, the same feeling I have experienced now in Harare because it is a similar case. The French occupation to [word indistinct] both imagining that [word indistinct] power can shift them from [word indistinct]. The same feeling I am here in Harare. [as heard], That is the spirit, the determination of your heroic struggle, your freedom fighters, your sacrifices against imperialism, colonialism, Zionism, apartheid, racism. This is the will and the determination; no power can defeat it. [applause]

My Brother Mugabe, we were and we are still struggling together in the same things against the same enemy — this alliance between the regime of Pretoria, the regime of Tel Aviv, supported with unlimited support by the American imperialists. This alliance between Pretoria, Tel Aviv, and Washington is continuing in their plans even after independence. The challenge — this continuous aggression against the Frontline States is similar to that in our area in the Middle East. The continuous aggression from this alliance — Pretoria, Tel Aviv, Washington — against the Arab states and against the PLO and the Palestinian liberation, [words indistinct] similar conditions, but I have this very great hope.

Some 2 years ago I was not expecting that I will be here in Harare and an invitation from my dear brother, dear friend Mugabe here in the friendly brotherly country of the people, of the great people of Zimbabwe; who could imagine it, but it is a fact, it is a reality, now here in Harare. [applause] So your victory is our victory, and we consider your victory Brother Mugabe is in the same long road, long path of our joint target, joint revolution against imperialism, colonialism, Zionism, apartheid, racism, and the struggle will keep on.

I promise you, Brother Mugabe, I promise my brothers, my friends here, the people of Zimbabwe, I promise them by the name of all the Palestinians in the struggle that we will carry on in our struggle until we are able to achieve our victory there in Palestine, in Jerusalem. [applause] [words indistinct] of victory. I cannot forget Brother Mugabe your strong support to my people, to my revolution, to the PLO. We cannot forget this absolute support. By the name of our freedom fighters, by the name of our people, we appreciate what you have suffered, and we promise you we will continue in this struggle and (?reach the day) in which I will be able to offer to my Brother Mugabe an invitation to visit Palestine very soon.

We have suffered a lot, and [words indistinct]. In the past two years only we lost our 82,000 killed and wounded. Most of them are women and children, but it is the long path of the long great struggle against imperialism, colonialism, Zionism, apartheid, racism. We know as you, Comrade Brother Mugabe, have suffered a lot of sacrifice, you have been able to achieve your victory. We have to pay as you have paid. You are a symbol, you are a symbol to our freedom fighters, [applause] and we will follow. You are a symbol for our freedom fighters. You, our brothers, the people of Zimbabwe, are symbols for our people, for our Palestinian people. For this we are sure that as long as we will follow your line, your road, not doubt we will achieve our goal and we will achieve our victory. [applause]

What is going on in the Middle East, in Lebanon, in Palestine, in Namibia, in South Africa, in the Frontline States? Similar things, similar [word indistinct]. So the struggle will keep on and we know Brother Mugabe, that the pressure from this alliance

— Tel Aviv, Pretoria, Washington — will carry on, will increase, especially now because of your brave absolute support to all the (?revolutionaries), not only here in Africa, but all over the world.

But as you have mentioned to me Brother Mugabe the other day, it is a matter of principle, and this is the promise between us that we will carry on, in spite of all the pressures you are facing, and we are facing there. This is the line, this is the road of all the freedom fighters of all the revolutionaries.

So what is going on now [as heard] against the Frontline States. You know Brother Mugabe, the pressures will increase more and more. I am saying this frankly because we used to speak frankly. They will increase their pressures against you because you are continuing the new revolutionary (?strategy) to help the revolutionaries all over the world, in Namibia, South Africa, in Palestine, in central Latin America, all over the world. So this is the line, the road of all the revolutionaries. We know it is very difficult, but it is the matter of principle, and we will carry on.

I promise you Brother Mugabe, by the name of our people, Palestinian freedom fighters, we will follow your road, your strong road, the road has been (?built and strengthened), and we know that we will face these (?very difficulties) — aggression and attacks. When I am speaking about these pressures and aggression on the Frontline States because we know that exactly after independence [words indistinct] these imperialists, colonialists, (?monopolists), apartheid, racism, (?Jewry) liberation struggle, but we are sure as you have the [word indistinct] and (?you have reached your objective) and have achieved your victory with your heroic people, you will carry on [words indistinct] till you achieve all independence for Namibia, for South Africa, for Palestine. [applause]

I have a lot of things to say, my brother. By the name of the Palestinian people, by the name of our freedom fighters, the revolutionaries, we thank you very much for what you have offered to our revolution, to the people of Namibia, to our people, [word indistinct] South Africa. This we cannot forget, but [words indistinct] great matter because you are rare [word indistinct]. [applause]

Please Brother Mugabe, convey to your people, those people of Zimbabwe who I have not the ability to see or to (?touch), but what I have [words indistinct] my powers. Thank you, thank you. Please convey to them, to this heroic, great people, to your party, to ZANU, to your Central Committee, to your Politburo (?Parliament) my sincerest regards, the regards of the Palestinian freedom fighters, and the Palestinian people. Again I promise Brother Mugabe, to oppose the oppression we are facing, inside our occupied [words indistinct].

We are facing great oppression from these people alike — Pretoria, Tel Aviv, Washington. From the pressures [words indistinct] taking our people from their land. [words indistinct] it is the kind of oppression which we are facing. Even they are threatening our Christian and [words indistinct] in Jerusalem, in [words indistinct] it is the enemy which we are facing, but we are sure through your support, Brother Mugabe, real support, to our revolution as you are supporting, your comrades, your friends, your brothers, in Namibia and in South Africa, we promise you, Brother Mugabe we will follow your example because you are a symbol to our revolution, to our freedom fighters. [applause].

Again I thank you from my deepest heart. Thank you the people of Zimbabwe. You give me the feeling that in spite of what you have suffered from this imperialism, (?Zionism), racism, apartheid, you have been able to defeat all your enemies, and inspite of this [words indistinct] that (?we will be able) to achieve our goals in free Palestine (?Jerusalem) [applause]

I have to thank you Brother Mugabe, to thank your government, to thank your party, to thank your people, for the continuous support you are giving us, and inspite of your many (?difficulties) which I (?understand) you have [words indistinct] and peace, your independence, but I know (?the battle) after the independence is more difficult than the military one. I know that, but inspite of that, you are supporting us with absolute support which we cannot forget. Thank you Brother Mugabe, thank you my brothers from my deep heart. I [words indistinct] speaking from something from my heart to your heart. Thank you.

Joint Communique Issued

MB300650 Harare Domestic Service in English
0600 GMT 30 Aug 84

[Text] The chairman of the PLO, Comrade Yasir 'Arafat, says the organization is working together with Southern African liberation movements struggling for freedom and self-determination. Comrade 'Arafat told a news conference in Harare yesterday that his organization and the liberation movements are facing a common enemy following the creation of an unholy alliance between Pretoria, Washington, and Tel Aviv.

The PLO leader left Harare for Maputo yesterday after a 2-day visit to Zimbabwe. In a joint communique issued in Harare, Comrade 'Arafat and the prime minister, Comrade Mugabe, paid tribute to the people of Southern Africa for their struggle against imperialism, apartheid, and racial discrimination. They reaffirmed their complete solidarity with the people of Namibia and demanded the immediate withdrawal of South Africa's occupation troops from that country.

Comrade 'Arafat and Comrade Mugabe also condemned repeated criminal acts of aggression by South African troops against the sovereign and territorial intergrity of the Frontline States. They also called on Iran and Iraq to stop the Persian Gulf war, saying is not in the interest of both countries. On Central America, the two leaders supported the right of countries in the region to adopt a political and economic system of their own choice.

'Arafat Leaves for Mozambique

MB291956 Harare Domestic Service in English
1745 GMT 29 Aug 84

[Text] The chairman of the PLO, Comrade Yasir 'Arafat, left Harare for Maputo today after a 2-day visit to Zimbabwe. Comrade Arafat was seen off at the airport by the prime minister, Comrade Robert Mugabe; the deputy prime minister, Comrade

Simon Muzenda; and party and government officials. Addressing newsmen before his departure, Comrade 'Arafat said Zionist Israel wants to wipe out the Palestinian race, and criticized the Reagan administration for masterminding Israeli attacks against innocent Palestinians. He said the United States is promoting apartheid, racism, Zionism, and other forms of oppression in South Africa, Namibia, and Palestine.

Five Students Leave for Study in GDR
MB291949 Harare Domestic Service in English
1745 GMT 29 Aug 84

[Text] Five Zimbabwean students will leave Harare on Friday for the GDR to undergo university training in mining and agriculture. The students' letter of confirmation for their scholarships was today handed over to an official of Ministry of Labor, Manpower Planning, and Social welfare by the GDR ambassador to Zimbabwe, Mr Hans-Georg Schleicher.

Dr Schleicher said the scholarships are part of a bilateral agreement on scientific and cultural cooperation signed between Zimbabwe and the GDR in 1982. He said more than 100 Zimbabweans have been to the GDR for various types of training since the signing of the agreement, and his government has spent about 1 million dollars to faciliatate their training.

The ambassador also said it is important for a country to invest in education of its people and hopes the students will return home to implement the policy of transformation which the government has embarked on. In reply, a ministry spokesman said the GDR has also agreed to give vocational training to Zimbabwe and plans are underway to send 30 students in various fields for training in the GDR.

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